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MAKDOUGALL BRISHANE PRIZE.

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This Prize, consisting of a Gold Medal and a sum of money, will be awarded hefore the close of the Session 1895-9, under the following conditions:—

1. Competing Essays are to be addressed to the Secretary of the Booteley on conditions:—

1. Competing Essays are to be addressed to the Secretary of the Booteley on convolutions: For Evenuer, 1885.

2. The Essays may be either anonymous or otherwise. In the former case, they must be distinguished by motions, with corresponding sealed billets superscribed with the same motto, and containing the name of the Author.

4. The subject proposed by the Council for the Prize of 1896-97 is the following:

4. The other the season of the Author.

5. The Collowing:

5. The Collowing:

6. As instances of such biographics which stift remain to be supplied, the Council would specify the following usuals: Eir. Robert Sibbaid, Sir Andrew Baifour, Maclaurin, Black, Mono Primus and Secundary, several of the family of Gregory, six James Ifait, Jameson. The earlier volumes of the Trons-Biographics of the kind here referred to. The Council are anxious to see a continuation of the series.

5. The Council impose no restriction as to the length of the Essays, which may be, at the discretion of the Council, read at the Ordinary Meetings of the Society. They winh also to leave the property and free disposal of the manuscripts to the Authors; a espy, however, being deposited in the archives of the Society, unless the paper aband by published in an Promescitions.

NEILL PRIZE.

The Council of the Royal Society of Edinburgh having received the bequest of the late Dr. Patrick Neill of the sum of 2004, for the purpose of "the interest thereto being applied in formishing a Madal or other reward every second or third year to any distinguished Sactish Maturalist, according as such Medal or reward shall be voted by the Council of the said Society, "bereby intimate, 1. That the Pirts Neill Prize, conjusting of a Gold Medal and a sum of money, will be awarded before the close of the Session 1888-9. NEILL PRIZE.

a. The Price will be given for a Paper of distinguished merit, on a subject of Natural History, by a Scottish Naturalist, which shall have been presented to the Society during three years preceding the the list of Hebruary, 1839,—or failing the presentation of a Paper sufficiently meritorious, it will be awarded, for a work or publication by some distinguished Scottish Naturalist, on some branch of Natural History, bearing date within five years of the Hoyal Society Apartments, March, 1857.

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12, Great Russell-street, March 12.

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As only a limited space is allowed, preference is given to those Advertisements which are more immediately addressed to Tourists,

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ANNUAL CIRCULATION 19,000. 50, Albemarle-street, London, April 4, 1857.

MELBOURNE. — All Publishers (General, Bocksellers are requested to send their CATALOGUES, as published, to Mr. GEO. ROBERTSON, MELBOURNE, per Messra. Houlston & Wright, Paternoster-row, London.

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#### REVIEWS

The Life of Charlotte Bronte, Author of 'Jane Eyre,' 'Shirley,' 'Villette,' &c. By E. C. Gaskell. 2 vols. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

THE story of a woman's life unfolded in this book is calculated to make the old feel young and the young old. Persons who have been conversant with society and manners as they existed in the remote corners of England within the century will feel themselves strangely recalled to the narrow homes, the grim prejudices, the few pleasures and privileges belonging to a period of heavy taxation, costly litera-ture, and limited intercourse, by the picture of a provincial parsonage and its inmates here set before them. Some of those, on the other hand, who are bursting into life, and brimming with creative power, may feel palsied (as it were by some cold prophecy) while they follow the record of a career of self-denial and struggle, sustained to the last with courage, principle, and genius, but without hope. Nevertheless, a true tale of what may be achieved in spite of disabilities, be the facts ever so cheerless, let the pilgrim's lot have been cast on ever so rugged a road, let his cup have been ever so fall of the waters of bitterness, can hardly be followed to its close without some strength being gained for the reader. By all, this book will be read with interest. As a work of Art, we do not recollect a life of a woman by a woman so well executed.—The materials were not large, and the difficulties of selection were obvious. There may have been reasons why the publication of this biography should not have been postponed, but these reasons subject surviving relatives of the deceased to close description and free comment; since to write the life of a woman and to omit a clear development of the circumstances which formed her character and influenced her hopes

Mrs. Gaskell is happy in describing the wild place, and rough, primitive state of society, in which the subject of her biography was cradled. Haworth is distant about four miles from Keighley, on the Leeds and Bradford Rail-

"What with villas, great worsted factories, rows of workmen's houses, with here and there an oldfashioned farm-house and outbuildings, it can hardly be called 'country' any part of the way. For two miles the road passes over tolerably level ground, distant hills on the left, a 'beck' flowing through meadows on the right, and furnishing waterpower, at certain points, to the factories built on its banks. The air is dim and lightless with the smoke from all these habitations and places of business. The soil in the valley (or 'bottom,' to use the local term) is rich; but, as the road begins to ascend, the vegetation becomes poorer; it does not flourish, it merely exists; and, instead of trees, there are only bushes and shrubs about the dwellings. Stone dykes are everywhere used in place. ings. Stone dykes are everywhere used in place of hedges; and what crops there are, on the patches of arable land, consist of pale, hungry-looking, grey-green oats. Right before the traveller on this road rises Haworth village; he can see it for two miles before he arrives, for it is situated on the side of a pretty steep hill, with a background of dun and purple moors, rising and sweeping away yet higher than the church, which is built at the very summit of the long narrow street. All round

'beck,' and the ascent through the village begins. The flag-stones with which it is paved are placed end-ways, in order to give a better hold to the horses' feet; and, even with this help, they seem to be in constant danger of alipping backwards. The old stone houses are high compared to the width of the street, which makes an abrupt turn before reaching the more level ground at the head of the village, so that the steep aspect of the place, in one part, is almost like that of a wall. But this surmounted, the church lies a little off the main road on the left; a hundred yards, or so, and the driver relaxes his care, and the horse breathes more easily, as they pass into the quiet little by-street that leads to Haworth Parsonage. \* \* The parsonage stands at right angles to the road, facing down upon the church; so that, in fact, parsonage, church, and belfried school-house, form three sides of an irregular oblong, of which the fourth is open to the fields and moors that lie beyond. The area of this oblong is filled up by a crowded churchyard, and a small garden or court in front of the clergyman's house. As the entrance to this from the road is at the side, the path goes round the corner into the little plot of ground. Underneath the windows is a narrow flower-border, carefully tended in days of yore, although only the most hardy plants could be made to grow there. Within the stone wall, which keeps out the surrounding churchyard, are bushes of elder and lilac; the rest of the ground is occupied by a square grass plot and a gravel walk. The house is of grey stone, two stories high, heavily roofed with flags, in order to resist the winds that might strip off a lighter covering. \* \* The little church lies, as I mentioned, above most of the houses in the village; and the graveyard rises above the church, and is terribly full of upright tombstones."

When the Brontë family had settled itself When the Bronte family had settled itself insthis forbidding spot, upwards of forty years since, the district was less thinly peopled, and the roads worse than they are now. What manner of humour was possessed by the parishioners may be gathered from a small piece of Church history, indicated to Mrs. Gaskell by the late Dr. Scoresby, who for a considerable period was Vicar of Bradford. This was "the riot which had taken place at This was "the riot which had taken place at Haworth on the presentation of the living to Mr. Redhead, Mr. Brontë's predecessor."—

"The previous incumbent, next but one in succession to Mr. Grimshaw, had been a Mr. Charnock. He had a long illness which rendered him unable to discharge his duties without assistance, and Mr. Redhead came to help him. As long as Mr. Charnock lived, his curate gave the people much satisfaction, and was highly regarded by But the case was entirely altered when, at Mr. Charnock's death in 1819, they conceived that the trustees had been unjustly deprived of their rights by the Vicar of Bradford, who appointed Mr. Redhead as perpetual curate. The first Sun-day he officiated, Haworth church was filled even day he officiated, Haworth church was filled even to the aisles,—most of the people wearing the wooden clogs of the district. But while Mr. Redhead was reading the second lesson, the whole congregation, as by one impulse, began to leave the church, making all the noise they could with clattering and clumping of clogs, till, at length, Mr. Redhead and the clerk were the only two left to continue the sewing. This was had exceeded but the restrict. the service. This was bad enough; but the next Sunday the proceedings were far worse. Then, as before, the church was well filled, but the aisles were left clear; not a creature, not an obstacle was in the way. The reason for this was made evident about the same time in the reading of the service as the disturbances had begun the previous week. A man rode into the church upon an ass, with his face turned towards the tail, and as many old hats piled on his head as he could possibly carry. He began urging his beast round the aisles, and the began urging his beast round the aisles, and the strong-headed men of the Riding. Here, the horizon there is this same line of sinuous wave-like hills; the scoops into which they fall only revealing other hills beyond, of similar colour and shape, crowned with wild, bleak moors. \*\* For a short distance the road appears to turn away from Haworth, as it winds round the base of the shoulder of a hill; but then it crosses a bridge over the

street, accompanied by several gentlemen from Bradford. They put up their horses at the Black Bull—the little inn close upon the churchyard, for the convenience of arvills [funeral feasts] as well as for other purposes—and went into church. On this the people followed, with a chimney-sweeper, whom they had employed to clean the chimneys of some out-buildings belonging to the church that very morning, and afterwards plied with drink till he was in a state of solemn intoxication. They placed him right before the reading-desk, where his blackened face nodded a drunken, stupid assent his blackened face nodded a drunken, stupid assent his blackened face nodded a drunken, stupid assent to all that Mr. Redhead said. At last, either prompted by some mischief-maker, or from some tipsy impulse, he clambered up the pulpit stairs, and attempted to embrace Mr. Redhead. Then the profane fun grew fast and furious. They pushed the soot-covered chimney-sweeper against Mr. Redhead, as he tried to escape. They threw both him and his tormentor down on the ground in the churchyard where the soot-bag had been emptied, and, though, at last, Mr. Redhead escaped into the Black Bull the dever of which were investigations. Black Bull, the doors of which were immediately barred, the peopled raged without, threatening to stone him and his friends. One of my informants is an old man, who was the landlord of the Black. Bull at the time, and he stands to it that such was the temper of the irritated mob, that Mr. Redhead was in real danger of his life. This man, however, was in real danger of his life. This man, however, planned an escape for his unpopular inmates. The Black Bull is near the top of the long, steep Haworth street, and at the bottom, close by the bridge, on the road to Keighley, is a turnpike. Giving directions to his hunted guests to steal out at the back door (through which, probably, many malored was less accounted from good Mr. Grime. a ne'er-do-weel has escaped from good Mr. Grimshaw's horsewhip), the landlord and some of the stable-boys rode the horses belonging to the party from Bradford backwards and forwards before his front door, among the fiercely-expectant crowd. Through some opening between the houses, those on the horses saw Mr. Redhead and his friends creeping along behind the street; and then, striking spurs, they dashed quickly down to the turnpike; the obnoxious clergyman and his friends mounted in haste, and had sped some distance before the people found out that their prey had escaped, and came running to the closed turnpike gate. This was Mr. Redhead's last appearance at Haworth for many years. Long afterwards, he came to preach, and in his sermon to a large and attentive congregation, he good-humouredly reminded them of the circumstances which I have described. They gave him a hearty welcome, for they owed him no grudge; although before they had been ready enough to stone him, in order to maintain what they con-sidered to be their rights."

Nor were the people who stood higher in the scale of society much more like trimmed and trained gentlefolk than the sturdy agitators above described. The stone houses of the squires—"picturesque, many-gabled, with heavy stone carvings of coats of arms for heraldic ornaments," now shouldered by mills on every side-had each of them its history. Many of these histories illustrate the times of the iron rule, when the head of the family, if not despotic in the indulgence of his appetites, not seldom showed himself darkly tyrannical in punishment and discipline. Nay, when the squire began to cede his crofts and acres one by one to the manufacturer it brought only a change in the form of rough romance for the district. The sieges, skirmishes, ambuscades, instances of private vengeance, which make up the history of the Luddite riots at the commencement of this century, here recalled by Mrs. Gaskell, were not calculated to smooth out the coarse and deep characteristics of the strong-headed men of the Riding. Here,

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near Heckmondwike, a large, straggling, dirty village, not two miles from Roe Head. It was principally inhabited by blanket worked in their own cottages; and Heald's Hall is the largest house in the village, of which Mr. Roberson was the vicar. At his own cost, he built a handsome church at Liversedge, on a hill opposite the one on which his house stood, which was the first attempt in the West Riding to meet the wants of the overgrown population, and made many personal sacrifices for his opinions. \* \* He was intimate with Cartwright, and aware of the attack likely to be made on his mill; accordingly, it is said, he armed himself and his household, and was prepared to come to the rescue, in the event of a signal being given that aid was needed. Thus far is likely enough. Mr. Roberson had plenty of warlike spirit in him, man of peace though he was. But, in consequence of his having taken the unpopular side, exaggerations of his character linger as truth in the minds of the people; and a fabulous story is told of his forbidding any one to give water to the wounded Luddites, left in the mill-yard, when he rode in the next morning to congratulate his friend Cartwright on his successful defence. Moreover, this stern, fearless clergyman had the soldiers that were sent to defend the neighbourhood billeted at his house; and this deeply displeased the work-people, who were to be intimidated by the red-coats. Although not a magistrate, he spared no pains to track out the Luddites concerned in the assassination I have mentioned; and was so successful in his acute unflinching energy, that it was believed he had been supernaturally aided; and the country cople, stealing into the field surrounding Heald's Hall on dusky winter evenings, years after this time, declared that through the windows they saw Parson Roberson dancing, in a strange red light, with black demons all whirling and eddying round him. He kept a large boys' school; and made himself both respected and dreaded by his pupils. He added a grim kind of humour to his strength of will; and the former quality suggested to his fancy strange out-of-the-way kinds of punishment for any refractory pupils: for instance, he made them stand on one leg in a corner of the school-room, holding a heavy book in each hand; and once, when a boy run away home, he followed him on horseback, reclaimed him from his parents, and, tying him by a rope to the stirrup of his saddle, made him run alongside of his horse for the many miles they had to traverse before reaching Heald's Hall."

Those who have ever thought of such wild, lawless doings as these, and of their conse-quences—overt crime or concealed vice—will pause over the writings of the sentimentalists ere they accept domestic happiness, superior content, and cheerful sense of duty as the prevailing spirit of middle-class life among persons of modest fortunes in England during the past half-century, in order that they may point to our island as a place now rotting under the wrecks and ruins of a healthier, simpler society. But enough in speculation on a picture, for the accuracy of which many besides ourselves could vouch.—It was by recognizing the traces of such influences on the writers of the "Bell" novels that, during the hot dispute concerning their authorship which prevailed for a while in London, we were satisfied that the writers of those tales were Northern folk,-and not, as some maintained, this Babylonian novelist in a mask, or that brilliant woman of society. Further, apart from the education of wild scenery and strange neighbours, the Bronte children were disciplined by some singularities, such as possibly will not find place in this land of ours, to constrain and damage the girls of a coming generation. Their father (we only follow Mrs. Gaskell's lead in speaking historically of one who yet lives) was a handsome, clever Irish clergyman—their mother was a lady belonging to the far west, the county of Cornwall, which, with its picturesque scenery and its quaint family histories, -its methodisms and its miners, and its superstitions and its wreckers,-teems,

even to this day, with varieties of English character. The harsh northern climate, possibly the air of Haworth parsonage, where every breath seems to have been drawn in the midst of a fat graveyard, proved deadly to the delicate western woman. She died young, leaving be-hind her six little children, five girls and a boy. Her husband seems from the moment of her death to have retired into a grim stoicism, equivalent in some of its results to thoughtless cruelty. Having summoned an aunt from Cornwall to take care of his girls, he thenceforward with-drew into his parochial duties and solitary pursuits and habits of his own, took his meals by himself, and, being obliged, in those wild days, among those wild people, to pay his pastoral visits on the moors armed with a pistol, resolved to make his children, like himself, hardy "and indifferent to the pleasures of eating and dress.' More ungentle than Dr. Primrose, whose sly annihilation of his daughter's "wash for the face" no reader of 'The Vicar' will have forgotten, he thrust their shoes into the fire when they were too gay in colour—(he had ere this, in a fit of rage, cut their mother's favourite "Paduasoy" gown into shreds). His manner of teaching, too, was no less characteristic—here reprinted from a memorandum furnished by himself.—

"When mere children, as soon as they could read and write, Charlotte and her brother and sisters used to invent and act little plays of their own, in which the Duke of Wellington, my daughter Charlotte's hero, was sure to come off conqueror; when a dispute would not unfrequently arise amongst them regarding the comparative merits of him, Bonaparte, Hannibal, and Cæsar. \*\* I frequently thought that I discovered signs of rising talent, which I had seldom or never before seen in any of . A circumstance now occurs to my mind which I may as well mention. children were very young, when, as far as I can remember, the oldest was about ten years of age, and the youngest about four, thinking that they knew more than I had yet discovered, in order to make them speak with less timidity, I deemed that if they were put under a sort of cover I might gain my end; and happening to have a mask in the house. I told them all to stand and speak boldly from under cover of the mask. I began with the youngest (Anne, afterwards Acton Bell), and asked what a child like her most wanted; she answered 'Age and experience.' I asked the next (Emily, afterwards Ellis Bell), what I had best do with her brother Branwell, who was sometimes a naughty boy; she answered, 'Reason with him, and when he won't listen to reason, whip him.' I asked Branwell what was the best way of knowing the difference between the intellects of men and women; he answered, 'By considering the difference between them as to their bodies.' I then asked Charlotte what was the best book in the world; she answered, 'The Bible.' And what was the next best; she answered, 'The Book of Nature.' I then asked the next what was the best mode of education for a woman; she answered 'That which would make her rule her house well.' Lastly, I asked the oldest what was the best mode of spending time; she answered, 'By laying it out in preparation for a happy eternity.'"

In pursuance of this Spartan mode of instruction, the poor children, — brought up in this ungenial climate (where the Cornish aunt suffered so much from chill that she had the habit of putting on pattens to mount the stairs), and exposed to the charnel breath of a churchyard, which is described as breeding perpetual influenza and fever,-were not allowed to eat animal food. It was no wonder that the girls all became delicate, unhealthy and spiritless,—that the Author of 'Jane Eyre' never attained her full growth, and that her elder sisters proved not vigorous enough to resist the dirt, neglect and misery of the foundation-school at Cowan's Bridge, to which they were sent, but died there,—this being one of the first experiences of life, it may

be, which made its print on the mind of Charlotte Brontë.-Another phase of their training, common to children who have few playfellows, was less inauspicious. They caught up from the newspapers names, thoughts, and fancies concerning the interests of the great world (how remote a faëry land!) with precocious eagerness and prejudice. They became eager partizans in politics. They began for their own entertainment to make plays and to dream dreams, precursors of those which one day were to bring their names out of obscurity. Before Charlotte was fourteen she had filled twenty-two volumes with manuscript of an excruciating smallness, —as a fac-simile assures us,—consisting of tales, verse, and conversations, in which it is characteristic to see how perpetually the Duke of Wellington figures in imaginary adventures. This resolution to be something, and by aid of fancy to hold some communion with the bright and distant world, - the exercise of strong family affections, and a sense of duty, the abiding strength of which in one so physically feeble, so heavily tried, and so incessantly tempted by a wild imagination as she, is most touching,—furnished all the materials for happiness that this remarkable woman enjoyed, till the short period of rest arrived, which was early closed by her death. Every intellectual acquisition was made doubly difficult to her by narrow fortune and bad health. She seems, moreover, in some passages of adventure, calculated to try the courage of one so timid and who had stirred so little from home, to have been only protected from accident by her own resolution to acquire, to endure, and not to lean heavily on her family. With the view of making herself independent by tuition, she managed for herself that residence in Brussels which she subsequently turned to the uses of fiction in 'Villette.' It was not till the schemes of being a governess and of opening a school in junction with her sisters successively disappointed expectation that she seems reso lutely to have set herself to consider what public use she could make of her acquisitions and experiences. The story of her own and her sisters' authorship was told by herself in the remarkable Preface which she prefixed to their Remains,—and there, too, in language as nervous as it was affecting, we were informed that just at the moment when (as it were) the gate seemed unbarred, when the sunlight was begin-ning to stream in, first one life-companion and confidential friend and then the other was carried away. But not till now has the world learnt that the efforts by which this indomitable will at last reached its aim were made while Miss Brontë was ministering to her father under the heavy affliction of blindness (since relieved), and during years while her heart was torn with anxiety on behalf of her brother,—a man who became a drunkard, to drown the remorse consequent on a wrecked life. We are forced to point out that such wreck was prepared for, if not rendered inevitable, by the alternation of house-hold severity and neglect, which seems to have distinguished the education of a strongly-char-renterized and original family of children but racterized and original family of children, but such pain as may be given is not of our seeking. Mrs. Gaskell has told the whole dismal story, without hesitation or suppression, too emphatically for any one dealing with it to forbear from comment.

The public know from Miss Bronte's own pen how she entered public authorship, and the tales by herself and her sisters are too fresh in every one's remembrance to make it necessary to return to them critically. It is enough if we say that almost every incident and character in them was studied from life. In 'Shirley,'-that Yorkshire novel, curious as a compound of

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racter in y,'-that ound of poetical passion with the commonplaces of rough life,—Miss Brontë herself owned to her originals, some of whom, too, knew that they sat to her for their portraits. Here is a Haworth anecdote too characteristic to be passed over .-

"The helplessness of an animal was its passport to Charlotte's heart; the fierce, wild, intractability of its nature was what often recommended it to Emily. Speaking of her dead sister, the former told me that from her many traits in Shirley's character were taken; her way of sitting on the rug reading, with her arm round her rough bull-dog's reading, with her arm round her rough bull-logs neck; her calling to a strange dog, running past, with hanging head and lolling tongue, to give it a meriful draught of water, its maddened snap at her, her nobly stern presence of mind, going right into the kitchen, and taking up one of Tabby's red-hot Italian irons to sear the bitten place, and telling no one, till the danger was well-nigh over, for fear of the terrors that might beset their weaker winds. All this leaked were as a real invented for fear of the terrors that might beset their weaker minds. All this, looked upon as a well-invented fiction in 'Shirley,' was written down by Charlotte with streaming eyes; it was the literal true account of what Emily had done. The same tawny bulldog (with his 'strangled whistle'), called 'Tartar' in 'Shirley,' was 'Keeper' in Haworth parsonage; a gift to Emily. With the gift came a warning. Keeper was faithful to the depths of his nature as long as he was with friends; but he who struck him with a stick or whip, roused the relentless nature of the brute, who flew at his throat forthwith, and held him there till one or the other was at the point of death. Now Keeper's household at the point of death. Now Keeper's household fault was this. He loved to steal up-stairs, and stretch his square, tawny limbs, on the comfortable beds, covered over with delicate white counterpanes But the cleanliness of the parsonage arrangements But the cleanliness of the parsonage arrangements was perfect; and this habit of Keeper's was so objectionable, that Emily, in reply to Tabby's remonstrances, declared that, if he was found again transgressing, she herself, in defiance of warning and his well-known ferocity of nature, would beat him so severely that he would never offend again. In the gathering dusk of an autumn evening, Tabby came, half triumphantly, half tremblingly, but in great wrath, to tell Emily that Keeper was lying on the beat bed, in drowsy voluptuousness. Charlotte saw Emily's whitening face, and set mouth, but dared not speak to interfere; no one dared when Emily's eyes glowed in that manner mouth, but dared not speak to interfere; no one dared when Emily's eyes glowed in that manner out of the paleness of her face, and when her lips were so compressed into stone. She went up-stairs, and Tabby and Charlotte stood in the gloomy passage below, full of the dark shadows of coming stable. There are the case Exilts described to the contract of the contract passage below, full of the dark shadows of coming night. Down stairs came Emily, dragging after her the unwilling Keeper, his hind legs set in a heavy attitude of resistance, held by the 'scuft of his neck,' but growling low and savagely all the time. The watchers would fain have spoken, but durst not, for fear of taking off Emily's attention, and causing her to avert her head for a moment from the enraged brute. She let him go, planted in a dark corner at the bottom of the stairs; no time was there to fetch stick or rod, for fear of the stranging output, her through her here elemented. strangling clutch at her throat-her bare clenched strangling clutch at her throat—her bare clenched fist struck against his red fierce eyes, before he had time to make his spring, and, in the language of the turf, she 'punished him' till his eyes were swelled up, and the half-blind, stupefied beast was led to his accustomed lair, to have his swelled head fomented and cared for by the very Emily herself. The generous dog owed her no grudge; he loved her dearly ever after; he walked first among the mourners to her funeral; he slept moaning for nights at the door of her emuty room, and never so nights at the door of her empty room, and never, so to speak, rejoiced, dog fashion, after her death."

We have purposely, in dealing with this book, confined ourselves to the influences which made the success and marred the happiness of its subject. We can have less to do with that brief, better time during which Miss Brontë enjoyed the fruits of her hardly-earned success, and shall thus pass over her London visits and London correspondences, since they are sure to going extract. In truth, this complex woman of genius seems to have devoted so much honest, in style so terse, in experience so limited, in appreciation so shrewd, that we cannot quit a blighting life and a cruel position as never to

the result of the experiment.-

"I had not seen 'Pride and Prejudice' till I read that sentence of yours, and then I got the book. And what did I find? An accurate, daguerreotyped portrait of a commonplace face; a carefully-fenced, highly-cultivated garden, with neat borders and delicate flowers; but no glance of a bright, vivid physiognomy, no open country, no fresh air, no blue hill, no bonny beck. I should hardly like to live with her ladies and gentlemen, in their elegant but confined houses. \* \* Now I can understand admiration of George Sand; for though I never saw any of her works which I admired throughout (even 'Consuelo,' which is the best, or the best that I have weat account to me to seven leather experience. have read, appears to me to couple strange extrava-gance with wondrous excellence), yet she has a grasp of mind, which, if I cannot fully comprehend I can very deeply respect; she is sagacious and profound;
—Miss Austen is only shrewd and observant."

Here, again, is a more touching passage belonging to the period of fame (1849), written when Miss Brontë was the one survivor of the six who had

filled one house with glee .-

"My life is what I expected it to be. Sometimes when I wake in the morning, and know that Solitude, Remembrance, and Longing are to be almost my sole companions all day through—that at night I shall go to bed with them, that they will long keep me sleepless—that next morning I shall wake to them again,—sometimes, Nell, I have a heavy heart of it. But crushed I am not, yet; nor robbed of elasticity, nor of hope, nor quite of endeavour. I have some strength to fight the battle of life. I am aware, and can acknowledge, I have many comforts, many mercies. Still I can get on. But I do hope many mercies. Still I can get on. But I do hope and pray, that never may you, or any one I love, be placed as I am. To sit in a lonely room—the clock ticking loud through a still house—and have open before the mind's eye the record of the last year, with its shocks, sufferings, losses—is a trial."

Here is a bit of plain speaking, flung out and penned to a male correspondent, and an influential critic, by a timid, shrinking woman, to whose reserved delicacy of manner all must bear testimony who chanced to meet her, and who dreaded strangers so severely that illness and sleeplessness followed the excitement of the gentlest encounter with those who were the most anxious to spare her gentleness.

"I will tell you why I was so hurt by that review 'I will tell you will I was so intre by suar leview in the '—'; not because its criticism was keen or its blame sometimes severe; not because its praise was stinted (for, indeed, I think you give me quite as much praise as I deserve), but because after I had said earnestly that I wished critics would judge me as an author, not as a woman, you so roughly—I even thought so cruelly—handled the question of sex. I dare say you meant no harm, and perhaps you will now be able to understand why I was so you will now be able to understand why I was so grieved at what you will probably deem such a trifle; but grieved I was, and indignant too. There was a passage or two which you did quite wrong to write. However, I will not bear malice against you for it; I know what your nature is: it is not a bad or unkind one, though you would often jar terribly on some feelings with whose recoil and quiver you could not possibly sympathise. I imagine you are both enthusiastic and implacable, as you are at once sagacious and careless; you know much and discover much, but you are in such a hurry to tell it all you never give yourself time to think how your reckless eloquence may affect others; and, what is more, if you knew how it did affect them, you would not much care."

There is inexperience -and something beyond the fearlessness of inexperience—in the fore-going extract. In truth, this complex woman of genius seems to have devoted so much

these volumes without offering a passage or two from them. It appears that a literary friend, by way of training and taming the Author of 'Jane Eyre,' had recommended to her a course of "Miss Austen's novels." The following tells which fall in love before they are fallen in love

which fall in love before they are fallen in love with, appear to many lovers of fiction.—
"One day, during that visit at the Briery when I first met her, [writes Mrs. Gaskell] the conversation turned upon the subject of women's writing fiction; and some one remarked on the fact that, in certain instances, authoresses had much outstepped the line which men felt to be proper in works of this kind. Miss Bronte said she wondered how far this was a natural consequence of allowing the imagination to work too constantly; Sir James and Lady Kay Shuttleworth and I expressed our belief that such Shuttleworth and I expressed our belief that such violations of propriety were altogether unconscious on the part of those to whom reference had been made. I remember her grave, earnest way of saying, 'I trust God will take from me whatever power of invention or expression I may have, before He lets me become blind to the sense of what is fitting or unfitting to be said!'

Protracted life and success, and increased experience with what is best in society (not what is most convenient in observance), might have ripened, and mellowed, and smoothed the creations of this singular novelist without destroying their charm of force and individuality. But conjecture stops at the grave-side. At the time when "the silver lining of the cloud" began to show itself, when domestic cherishing and prosperity seemed to await her after so many hard, dark, cruel years, the end came. All this is gently and sadly told by Mrs. Gaskell, with whom the task has been a labour of love (a little, also, of defence),—and who, we repeat, has produced one of the best biographies of a woman by a woman which we can recall to mind.

The Testimony of the Rocks; or, Geology in its Bearings on the two Theologies, Natural and Revealed. By Hugh Miller. (Edinburgh, Shepherd & Elliott; London, Hamilton &

A painful interest attaches to this volume. The author spent a part of the last day of his life in correcting its last pages for the press. The public, in fact, was made aware of the existence of the work at the very time of the death of its author. Such circumstances may well disarm criticism. The close of the work well disarm criticism. The close of the work and the death of its writer occurring so closely together have led to the very general inference, that the production of this work led to that overwrought state of mind of the author which ended in his destruction. We think this is not borne out by the character of the work or the nature of its contents. By far the larger proportion has been some time before the public in other forms; and in no portion of it do we in other forms; and in no portion of it do we find evidence of labour such as would break down a mind like that possessed by Hugh Miller.

Those who are acquainted with Mr. Miller's previous writings will know what to expect in Revealed Religion.' Of course, all departments of human knowledge may be thus pressed into an argument in favour of particular views; but it has been especially the privilege of geology in these latter times to be the battle-field of the theologian with the man of science. It is not within our province to enter into the discussion of the relative merits of geological and theo-logical views of the age of the earth, or the period of time which-

Brought death into the world, and all our woe.

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interpretation of the first chapter of Genesis,who assert that the world is not more than six thousand years old, and that the phenomena which appear to be the result of millions of years of change were all-produced by the Flood. This school has at the present day few public advo-cates. There is the school of Pye Smith and Buckland, who believe in the great antiquity of the earth, and that the Bible records only a finishing act of creation, and that the "days of creation of the Bible are only natural days of twenty-four hours. To this school Mr. Miller formerly belonged. There are also those who are of opinion that the Bible records the successive acts of creation, and that the "days" of the Bible are unmeasured eras of time. It is to this school that Mr. Miller belonged at his death; and this book, his last legacy to humanity, is an attempt to make the rocks of the earth bear their testimony in favour of his latest belief. Here is the statement of his views

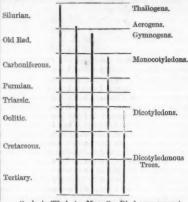
"It will be seen that I adopt, in my third and fourth lectures, that scheme of reconciliation between the Geologic and Mosaic Records which accepts the six days of creation as vastly extended periods; and I have been reminded by a somewhat captious critic that I once held a very different view, and twitted with what he terms inconsistency I certainly did once believe with Chalmers and with Buckland that the six days were simply natural days of twenty-four hours each, -that they had compressed the entire work of the existing creation, -and that the latest of the geologic ages was separated by a great chaotic gap from our own.

My labours at the time as a practical geologist had been very much restricted to the Palæozoic Secondary rocks, more especially to the Old Red and Carboniferous Systems of the one division, and the Oolitic System of the other; and the long extinct organisms which I found in them certainly did not conflict with the view of Chalmers. found necessary at the time to the work of reconciliation was some scheme that would permit me to assign to the earth a high antiquity, and to regard it as the scene of many succeeding creations. During the last nine years, however, I have spent a few weeks every autumn in exploring the later formations, and acquainting myself with their peculiar organisms. I have traced them upwards from the raised beaches and old coast lines of the human period, to the brick clays, Clyde beds, and drift and boulder deposits of the Pleistocene era, and again from these, with the help of museums and collections, up through the mammaliferous crag of England, to its Red and its Coral crags. And the conclusion at which I have been compelled to arrive is, that for many long ages ere man was ushered into being, not a few of his humbler contemporaries of the fields and woods enjoyed life in their present haunts, and that for thousands of years anterior to even their appearance, many of the existing molluses lived in our seas. during which the present creation came into being, and in which God, when he had made 'the beast of the earth after his kind, and the cattle after their kind,' at length terminated the work by moulding a creature in His own image, to whom he gave dominion over them all, was not a brief period of a few hours' duration, but extended over mayhap millenniums of centuries. No blank chaotic gap of death and darkness separated the creation to which man belongs from that of the old extinct elephant, hippopotamus, and hyæna; for familiar animals such as the red deer, the roe, the fox, the wild cat, and the badger, lived throughout the period which connected their times with our own; and so I have been compelled to hold, that the days of creation were not natural, but prophetic days, and stretched far back into the bygone to the other side, I have yielded to evidence which I found it impossible to resist; and such in this matter has been my inconsistency,—an inconsistency of which the world has furnished examples in all the sciences, and will, I trust, in its onward progress, continue to furnish many more."

Of course every one will receive Mr. Miller's

conclusions with the respect due to his great geological knowledge and evidently sincere conclusions.

The Rocks, however, in Mr. Miller's estimation, bear testimony to another theology, to a plan and method of Creation which may be studied without the Bible, although Mr. Miller has tried to harmonize it with a Scriptural theology. This department of his subject will be more interesting to those who are content to leave the interpretation of Scripture as a thing apart, and to study geological phenomena alone. On this point a controversy is waging. Although the Author of 'The Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation' has been put out of court as having no claim to be listened to, where the dignified interests of truth are concerned, yet there are those who believe that the grand facts in the history of the earth's changes and the creation of its living inhabitants indicate progress. On this side Mr. Miller ranges himself. He is in good company for names: Owen, Agassiz and Sedgwick are to be found on his side. On the other hand, we have Lyell and the late Edward Forbes maintaining that the facts are insufficient to support a positive theory of Edward Forbes maintained that, as far as the molluscous invertebrate animals were concerned, there was no indication of advance in creation from the Silurian to the pre-Sir Charles Lyell believes man to be an exceptional case, but sees no reason why the remains of chimpanzees should not be found in the Lower Silurian rocks, and triumphantly points, in a Supplement to the last edition of his 'Elements,' to the footsteps of a turtle found in the Silurians of Canada. Mr. Miller opens his work with the Palæontological History of Plants. With a rare eloquence he discourses on the history of their development; and whatever allowance is to be made for further discoveries, no one can doubt that present evidence supports the theory of progress. The following diagram illustrates the author's views :-



Geologic [Thal. Ac. Mon. Gy. Dic.] arrangement. Lindley's [Thal. Ac. Mon. Gy. Dic.] arrangement.

In reference to the last great creation of plants on the surface of the earth, Mr. Miller has the following passage, which will at once afford an illustration of the method and aim of his argument:—

"The oak, the birch, the hazel, the Scotch fir, all lived, I repeat, in what is now Britain, ere the last great depression of the land. The gigantic northern elephant and rhinoceros, extinct for untold ages, forced their way through their tangled branches; and the British tiger and hyena harboured in their thickets. Cuvier framed an argument for the fixity of species on the fact that the birds and beasts embalmed in the catacombs were identical in every respect with the animals of the same kinds that live now. But what, it has been asked, was a brief

period of three thousand years, compared with the geologic ages? or how could any such argument be founded on a basis so little extended? It is, however, to no such narrow basis we can refer in the case of these woods. All human history is comprised in the nearer corner of the immense period which they measure out; and yet, from their first appearance in creation till now they have not altered a single fibre. And such, on this point, is And such, on this point, is the invariable testimony of Paleontologic science,
—testimony so invariable, that no great Paleontologist was ever yet an asserter of the development hypothesis. With the existing trees of our indigenous woods it is probable that in even these early times a considerable portion of the herbs of our recent Flora would have been associated, though their remains, less fitted for preservation, have failed to leave distinct trace behind them. We at least know generally, that with each succeeding period there appeared a more extensively useful and various vegetation than that which had gone before. I have already referred to the sombre, unproductive character of the earliest terrestrial Flora with which we are acquainted. It was a Flora unfitted, apparently, for the support of either graminivorous or herbivorous quadruped. The singularly profuse vegetation of the Coal Measures was, with all its wild luxuriance, of a resembling cast. So far as appears, neither flock nor herd could have lived on its greenest and richest plains; nor does even the Flora of the Oolite seem to have been in the least suited for the purposes of the shepherd or the herdsman. Not until we enter on the Tertiary periods do we find Floras amid which man might have profitably laboured as a dresser of gardens, a tiller of fields, or a keeper of flocks and herds. Nay, there are whole orders and families of plants of the very first importance to man which do not appear until late in even the Tertiary ages. Some degree of doubt must always attach to merely negative evidence; but Agassiz, a geologist whose statements must be received with respect by every student of the science, finds reason to conclude that the order of the Rosaces,—an order more important to the gardener than almost any other, and to which the apple, the pear, the quince, the cherry, the plum, the peach, the apricot the victorine, the almond, the raspberry, the strawberry, and the various brambleberries belong, together with all the roses and the potentillas, -was introduced only a short time previous to the appearance of man. true grasses,-a still more important order, which as the corn-bearing plants of the agriculturist, feed at the present time at least two thirds of the human species, and in their humbler varieties form the staple food of the grazing animals, - searce appear in the fossil state at all. They are peculiarly plants of the human period."

The second lecture is devoted to the Palæontological History of Animals. The same ground is gone over with the forms of animal life. Each successive stratum, when its fossil letters are dug out and read, affords the same lesson for the animal as the plant. From a sketch of the animal life of Europe just preceding man's arrival, we select the following:—

"The group of mammals which, in Europe at least, immediately preceded the human period seems to have been everywhere a remarkable one; and nowhere was it more so than in the British Islands. Our present mammaliferous Fauna is rather poor; but the contents of the later deposits show that we must regard it as but a mere fragment of a very noble one. Associated with species that still exist in the less cultivated parts of the country, such as the badger, the fox, the wild eat, the roe, and the red deer, we find the remains of great animals, whose cogeners must now be sought for in the intertropical regions. Britain during the times of the boulder clay, and for ages previous, had its native elephant, its two species of rhinoceros, its hippopotamus, its hyena, its tiger, its three species of bears, its two species of beaver, its great elk, and its gigantic deer. Forms now found widely apart, and in very different elimates, meet within the British area. During at least the earlier times of the group, the temperature of our island seems to have been very much what it is

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abl e British now. As I have already had occasion to remark, the British oak flourished on its plains and lower slopes, and the birch and Scotch fir on its hills. And yet under these familiar trees the lagomys, And yet under these familiar trees the lagonys, or tailless hare, a form now mainly restricted to Siberia and the wilds of Northern America, and the reindeer, an animal whose proper habitat at the present time is Lapland, were associated with forms that are now only to be found between the tropics, such as that of the hippopotamus and tropics, such as that of the improposanus and rhinoceros. These last, however, unequivocally of extinct species, seem to have been adapted to live in a temperate climate; and we know from the famous Siberian specimen, that the British elephant, with its covering of long hair and closely felted wool, was fitted to sustain the rigours of a very severe one. It is surely a strange fact, but not less true than strange, that since hill and dale assumed in Britain their present configuration, and the oak and birch flourished in its woods, there were caves in England haunted for ages by families of hyænas,—that they dragged into their dens, with the carcases of long extinct animals, those of the still familiar denizens of our hill-sides, and feasted, now on the lagomys, and now on the common hare,
—that they now fastened on the beaver or the reindeer, and now upon the roebuck or the goat."

The last two lectures of the work are devoted to the less known fossil Floras of Scotland. The substance of these lectures was delivered The substance of these rectures was derived as a paper to the Meeting of the British Association at Glasgow. It was received there as a most important and valuable contribution to a department of local Palæontology, that had hitherto received but little attention. Many new facts are added; and the geologist will undoubtedly regard this part of the volume as by far the most important portion of the book. Many new fossil plants from the Old Red Sandstone and Oolites of Scotland are here described and figured for the first time. It is not, however, dry. Fossil species, however long extinct, live again in Mr. Miller's pages. His fossil fishes swim and gambol as though they were creatures of to-day, and were called sharks and rays instead of Ptericthyses and Holoptychiuses; whilst his vegetable Cyclopteruses and Didymoclenas shoot and blossom and wave in the winds as though they were plants of to-day. We cannot close these pages without the deep feeling of regret that the vigorous hand and brave intellect that are so onspicuous in every page should have so suddenly and painfully ceased to work. We commend the book as a fitting memorial of the mind of a man remarkable for his self-culture, literary ability, accurate science, and manly assertion of his convictions of the truth.

Three Dramas—[Drei Dramen]. By Elise Schmidt. (Berlin, Allgemeine Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt; London, Thimm.)

WE should be sorry to appear uncivil,—but, truth before politeness, Frau (or Fraulein) Schmidt! The first of these dramas, 'Der Genius und die Gesellschaft,' is intended to show, in the example of Lord Byron, the conflicts of "Genius" with "Society." But neither "Genius" nor "Society" is brought before us; we see only the caricatures of both. Every allowance may be made for the waywardness of Byron's genius,—but to represent the poet as Fraulein Schmidt, even in the fullness of her admiration, has represented him in this play, is where has our fair author made her studies of society—before all things of English society? She will pardon us, if, without entering into an analysis of her drawn without entering into an analysis of her drama, we throw out, quite at random, some observations for her benefit, as they are suggested to us by her bold frescoes. Lord Byron (with your permission, Frau Schmidt!), besides being a "genius" and a disputed. The soldier in a battle knows little

great "poet," was an English gentleman: consequently, first, did not make dramatic finales to the discourse of his acquaintance by winding them up with the discharge of percussion-caps; secondly, was not in the habit of discharging pistols into the ceiling of his drawing-room, to rouse the domestics, when they did not answer rouse the domestics, when they did not answer the bell; thirdly, did not swear by "Sapper-ment"; fourthly, did not, when Sheridan, bawling out, "Sherry, sherry!" and singing with a cracked voice,—

"Vertrunken hab ich Geld und Gut, Nun sitz ich dahler mit Schwermuth, Und warte auf die Constä—i—sibler,"

had fallen down, dead-drunk, to the ground, order his servants to "Carry this ignoble wreck of an otherwise honourable individual out of my presence!"; fifthly, did not, as part-proprietor of Drury Lane Theatre, receive young débutantes at his house who wished for his protection; sixthly, nor, on that protection being interpreted otherwise than he could have wished by the public of a theatre, is it likely that he would have harangued pit and boxes on their perverse mistake; seventhly, when the inter-esting debutante goes mad, and Byron conse-quently intends to destroy himself, he (and not only in his quality of an English gentleman) would have found great difficulty in suiting himself with a precipitous cliff overhanging a raging sea in sight of London as a fitting locale for the accomplishment of his intention; but, having found such a cliff, he, eighthly, was not likely to be dissuaded by a pilot or fisherman; and, ninthly, certainly did not take that fisherman's hint to go with him to Greece on the spot, there—to be shot in battle! N.B. When English gentlemen call upon a lady, they do not ask for claret and champagne to drink her health. But enough, and jesting aside! It is a dan-gerous task to found a work of fiction on the history of a popular man of yesterday,—on the history of a poet like Byron, whose thoughts and doings, whose noble aspirations and whose shortcomings, whose every joy, and tear, and sorrow we know, as it were, by heart from his own revelations, as well as from the records of his contemporaries. We have made ourselves an ideal picture of such a man, which we fondly enshrine in the most sacred recesses of our hearts, and which we feel grieved to see dis-figured and profaned by clumsy or tasteless hands. Poetical licence, taken with figures of this kind, is always objectionable. At least it calls for more delicate handling than is met with in the crude scenes before us.

The volume, besides 'Genius and Society,' contains two more dramas, — 'Macchiavelli,' and 'Peter the Great and his Son.' We confess that, after 'Genius and Society,' we have not

had the courage to read them.

The Angler in the Lake District; or, Piscatory Colloquies and Fishing Excursions in West-moreland and Cumberland. By John Davy, M.D. (Longman & Co.)

THERE is something at once singular and undeniable in the fact that nearly all anglers, when they exchange the rod for the pen, write amusing books. Usually, these agreeable volumes are not merely of technical or scientific interest to the brotherhood of anglers exclusively, but they are, in most cases, attractive to the general reader. The reason perhaps is, that to the river-side the angler takes a mind well furnished with rich and varied lore, and that in his contemplative pursuit and its gentle excitements, he has leisure for thought, space, if we may so speak, wherein to turn over his

of what is going on beyond the circle of a few yards around him, but the spectators quietly seated on some "coign of vantage" look over the field and are able to calculate its chances. In some such sense, the angler, who is not the fool placed by the moralist at one end of the "stick and the string," is like the spectator of a fight. He is removed from the immediate din of the fray, and while he throws his fly or watches his float, his mind weighs subjects calmly,—and, with such healthy influences as the musical ripple of the river, the scent of the meadows, a heart that balances his head, a sky net too beautiful for his purposes, and above him the uncontaminated air, he catches not only fish, but happy thoughts and clever suggestions, and original ideas; and these, at his desk, he moulds into admirable, gossipping, and useful books, as Dr. Davy has done in the

case of the one now before us.

Here we have him sparkling with table-talk Here we have him sparkling with table-talk at home, and generously putting a liberal share of good things into the mouth of "Amicus," with whom "Piscator," who, of course, is the Doctor himself, holds colloquy. And thence they go equipped, and we with them, to fishing in the mountain tarns, and picturesque rivers, and still more picturesque lakes of Westmoreland and Cumberland. And excellent company are the three, Amicus, Piscator, and Reader. We name the last, although he does not enter into the dramatic nervous as recorded by the into the dramatis persona, as recorded by the author,—for this reason, that where two men author,—for this reason, that where two men are discoursing profitably and amusingly, they cannot have better company than a third who is but too happy to enact the part of a gratified listener. In these angling expeditions "Reader" will find himself well rewarded for the amount of pedestrian exercise he is made to go through. The way is lightened by excellent discourse on scenery and incidents, and on matters local, piscatory, and general. Therewith we have a cheerful colloquy called 'Sunday and Sunday Musings' and the only fault of the book. Sunday Musings'; and the only fault of the book is, that it leaves us with an uneasy desire that Heaven had made us only anglers, with a lease of life as extended as Methuselah's,—a very, foolish wish, but Dr. Davy is responsible for it.

Tourists in Germany pay for Johannisberg and Liebfrauenmilch which they have not

tasted; and here is something to remind them that there are similar deceptions at home:-

"Amicus. How good are these potted fish which I have been enjoying along with your eulogy of the district! Are they the famed charr of your lake, or trout? One pleasant property belonging to them is their freedom from bones. Is this in consequence of solution in the process of cooking, or one of the felicities specially belonging to a fish of your favoured country?—Piscator. You are not serious, I know, in asking the latter question; but I will answer you seriously. As to your first question, were you at an inn, the waiter probably would call the fish charr, the charr being in greater estination, especially for potting; but if you in-quired of the cook who prepared them, and she would tell the truth, most likely you would be informed that they are trout, such as you have been eating. Know that a large proportion of the so-called potted charr is trout; the distinction is difficult; and if the trout be of good quality, it is not, when cut; and the trout be of good quanty, this not, when thus prepared, inferior to charr. As to your second question, if you carefully examine the fish you are eating, you will find that it retains its bones; but that, instead of being hard and resisting, as they originally were, they are now soft and yielding. This change is the effect of the cooking—of the baking process by which the animal matter, the cartilaginous portion of the bone, has been rendered almost gelatinous. It is by an analogous process that bones have been softened so as to admit of being easily chopped and divided for agricultural use, viz., by steaming or boiling under pressure."

Dr. Davy gives testimony in favour of the

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independent spirit of the northern peasantry; he has faith too in their simple honesty. One of the reasons why they are thus distinguished will be found in the subjoined extract:—

"Amicus. You spoke of the Lathkin as too strictly preserved. That surprises me;—I mean the accomplishment of the thing, being told by you of the difficulties attending it here in your Lake District. Pray how is it effected?—Piscator.
What is difficult in Westmoreland, almost impracticable, is easy in Derbyshire. In the one county —ours—landed property is much more divided than in the other; and the yeomanry class, under the designation of statesmen, is still a large one, though their number is diminishing. In consequence, perhaps, of there being few great properties here with manorial rights, the rivers and lakes have been considered in a manner free; and not only have the small farmers, but also the labouring men, whether in village or country, indulged themselves in angling, affording proof how general is the taste for it. In the latter county, on the contrary, this taste is checked; the landed properties are large; for instance, the river, the Lathkin mentioned, and the adjoining larger ones, the Wye and the Derwent, run through the domains of two great proprietors, the Dukes of Rutland and Devonshire. The aristocratic feeling is strong for the preservation of game; it is almost a distinctive mark; no right than that of fishing and shooting is more jealously maintained. Get permission, if you can, to wet a line in the Lathkin, and be assured you will not be half an hour, whether late or early, on its banks, without having a visit from a keeper, and probably from another and another in the course of the day, who will require the production of your credential and inspect them most inquisitorially. As to the labouring men thereabouts, fishing they never think of; they might as well think of doing any other impossible thing. Not only, if detected, would they be subject to fine or imprisonment, but they would be sure to be sent out of the country, being so much at the mercy of the great landlords. Even were an angling rod found in their cottage, they would have to rue the discovery. So lost are they to all interest in the sport, that I never saw a passing labourer stop to watch my doings, or to inquire after my success.—Amicus. Such exclusiveness is almost to be regretted. I fear in Derbyshire, at least, the different classes are too wide apart, and that the peasantry have not that kind-ness shown them, which, as fellow-men, they are entitled to, and the exercise of which would be for the advantage of all concerned. Such a state approaches too nearly that of serfage, as serfage does too nearly that of slavery. I, for my part, would rather live amongst your freer peasantry with very indifferent angling, than in those princely territories under such absolute rule and restricted water privileges. Surely the character of the peasantry must suffer."

No doubt that it seriously suffers; and it will continue to suffer as long as the bird which flies wild above the hungry peasant's head, the hare which crosses his path, and the fish that swims by him-food cast by God amid the hungry, which is on the properties of half-adozen different men in a day, and which is alternately the property of each man on whose estate it happens to be for the moment-is never, even when it is to be found on a common, the property of the famished rustic who needs it most. It would be easy to frame Game Laws which should protect the rights of landlords while they allowed the chance of an occasional dinner to the labourer. There would be fewer poachers and more game. Meanwhile, the following trait will probably startle a few who may have imagined the Lake district to be another Arcadia :

"The Lake-poets, I believe, were not of the district; respected in their adopted country, as they all were, it was, I am assured, rather as men than as poets. You will smile at what I am about to mention,—and perhaps with better knowledge may question its truth,—how a farmer's wife, a shrewd woman in her way, when one of these distinguished

men was taken to his last home,—on the family of the deceased poet becoming the subject of conversation,—naïvely remarked, she supposed Mrs.——, the widow, 'would carry on the business.' Such was her view of the divine art."

We conclude with a specimen of the chat when angling is over and the reel of discourse is running out. Piscator adds the following to the literature of the mysterious:—

"It was when I was at College, and engaged in chemical studies. Reading, reclining on my sofa, and it was by day, I saw a platina crucible which I valued falling from the adjoining table. I sprung up to try to save it, but grasped only air; no crucible was there, neither fallen, falling, or on the table; it was, as I before said, a spectral crucible. Next, of a person; this I witnessed when still a young man; and it was in Kandy, in Ceylon, and in mid-day. Reading at a table before an open window looking into a garden, I saw, on looking out, a gentleman, an acquaintance, a man of singular appearance, and like no one else, whether in figure or dress, pa before me. I fancied he had come to pay me a visit, but he did not come in; then, I supposed he had mistaken the door, and had gone to the next; I sent my servant to see; no, he was not there, nor had he been; there was a sentry at the outer gate; I sent to know if he had gone out; the reply was, he had not come in; I sent then to his house to inquire where he was, and the answer returned was, that he was then in bed, his habit being to sit up during the greater part of the night, and to be a-bed during a good part of the day. Now, suppose this gentle-man had been found dead in his bed, how impressive would have been the coincidence! what a capital ghost-story would have been realized! So singular were the habits and appearance of this gentleman, so lank and shadowy his form, so spiritual his nature, that a friend of mine to whom I related my experience, jocosely said, 'I do not believe in your philosophical explanation; rest assured that our acquaintance, at the time you saw him, was abroad in the spirit, luxuriating in his higher existence.'

Why not? Was not Hermotimus abroad in the spirit, when his wife burnt his dull corporeal substance at home? And how many, like that unlucky ancient, are soaring gaily abroad in soul, while detained bodily and dully, at their own hearths! With Dr. Davy's book, even the philosopher of Clazomene might have passed a pleasant evening by the side of his tender Lalage.

A Ramble through the United States, Canada, and the West Indies. By John Shaw, M.D.

Travel and Recollections of Travel; with a Chat upon Various Subjects. By Dr. John Shaw. (Saunders & Otley.)

Dr. Shaw announces that, in addition to these 'Rambles,' he has published 'A Tramp to the Diggings,' and "several pieces of music for the flute." The first page of his diary suffices to show that this confession is made in all simplicity. Simplicity is the attribute of Dr. Shaw. He travels through the New World with sublime self-love, and cares not how he exhibits it. He assumes, by turns, a tone of philosophic irony, of parental rebuke, of patronizing apology; and he garrulously discourses on every possible topic with that serene facility which marks the contented mind. Not once, when little unpleasantnesses occur, does he suspect himself in fault. He chides, and forgives, and forgets, and the matter is a bygone, though duly recorded. Meanwhile, of information con-nected with any part of the American continent or the Atlantic islands, his book contains very little. The poverty of the substance agrees with the mediocrity of the style, the substance being adulterated with small generalizations, as the style is disfigured with vulgarities, intended to be humorous.

Eleven or twelve years ago, we infer—the book

being undated-Dr. Shaw travelled to Liverpool by railway, three strangers sharing the same carriage. Not one of them spoke during the journey; and Dr. Shaw, "wishing to see the extent of Johnny's stupidity," kept silence also, without thinking that each of the gentlemen might have determined to see the extent of the stupidity manifested in another quarter. At all events, this was not the best mood in which to start upon a Transatlantic ramble. When once afloat, the roar of the ocean-wave inspires him, sometimes with magniloquence, sometimes with satire, - the magniloquence applying to the billows, and the satire to the passengers, for the majority of whom Dr. Shaw conceived a the majority of whom Dr. Shaw conceived a truly amiable contempt. They disgusted him, in fact, by swallowing "large clots of roast beef to such a degree that had the animals been divested of life, one might have concluded that they were getting stuffed for some mu-seum." The Americans must have been flattered when they found that a chiel so polished and so witty was taking notes among them. At Boston his observations began, the costume of the ladies reminding Dr. Shaw of "Gallia's daughters, rather than the descendants of Albion"; and the first time he heard a gong he "thought it must be a young earthquake, suddenly gifted with the power of muttering trifling and softly accentuated sentences." The meteor brightens as it flies. "Ever cautious," Dr. Shaw made it a rule "to address all individuals as if they belonged to the higher walk of life"; indeed, he admired many things which might have irritated a less placid traveller,— for a gentleman placed the leg of a chair on his foot, a boy thrust both knees against his back, and servants were nowhere obsequious .-

"Should these remarks meet the eye of an American, he may probably class me with Trollope, and others of her school, who have written the black side of American character, with a view to offend and wound the feelings of a people whom I look upon as most assuredly related to myself, and by whom the great achievements of civilization have been so successfully effected; and I feel a deep gratitude (as every Briton ought to do) for their having extended the English language and happiness to twenty millions of individuals, chiefly descended from the race that now occupies the shores of Great Britain: and I hope, as long as I live, to feel grateful and proud to remember them."

—The foregoing is a specimen of the lucid way in which Dr. Shaw explains himself. Beyond Niagara, he fell in with a hospitable Scottish lady.—

"She requested me to go to the church on the Sunday, and join the choir with my flute. I there met the rustics of the wood, who seemed to gaze with intense interest at the black round limbs of my flute, plentifully tipped with silver; and they appeared much surprised at some of the tones it sent forth. The reader may imagine the difficulty in which I was placed, not having previously joined the rustic rehearsal. However, all went pretty well. After performing a chant in common time, I remarked that one bar contained only three crotchets or their equivalents. The answer of the leader of the choir was—that 'that was the way they always played it. This certainly did excite my risibilities, notwithstanding the sacredness of the place."

In Canada, it was painful to see the sons of gentlemen in bar-rooms "forced, by the democratic spirit that prevails, to submit to be treated as equals [by persons] who, from their manner and bearing, would look much better in the stable or behind a table in the capacity of groom or waiter." At Hamilton it was even more disgusting, when a fire broke out in the town, to be pressed into the public service, and compelled to handle a bucket. "Not that I feared a little hard work, or was ashamed to be seen bearing a hand among the lower orders

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T. his for so laudable a purpose as that of extinguishing a fire." At Lorette, the Indians pleased him, especially a mother with richly-tinted skin, whom he playfully asked—What she would take for her child? "I have no doubt," she replied, in French, "that you are very rich; but you have not money cauch to buy my but you have not money enough to buy my child." Soon afterwards, this pleasant impres-sion was defaced by the impudence of a colonial boy at St. John's, who took Dr. Shaw's brandy-and-water from a mantel-piece, and drank a part of it.

From the less frivolous chapters of the book we select a paragraph or two of present in-

"I visited the prison of Philadelphia, where I fell in with the warden, one of the old school of Quakers. This is one of those institutions of which America may feel justly proud; for it was she who first originated the prison discipline—a system which has for its objects the amelioration of the condition of the prisoners of all grades and of every kind of crime, by means of education, religion, and kindness. The prisoners are allowed to work; for which they are paid, after doing a certain quantity for the establishment. The cells, instead of being small and confined, similar to many other prisons, were wide and large enough even for a short promenade; and it contains rooms and apparatus suited to the task and trade of the prisoner. Here is a moral guardian, whose office it is to converse with them kindly, and who, on their entrance, presents them with a Bible, and endeavours by every sents them with a Bible, and endeavours by every possible kind means and manner to reclaim them from their immoral and careless condition. A schoolmaster is employed, also, to teach them reading, writing, and arithmetic. Attached to each cell is a long kind of court-yard, in which they are allowed to walk and breathe fresh air, by a door communicating with it from the cell itself. Every facility is afforded them for following out any amusing and harmless employment; and, to show that they may be brought to pursue little pastime accommlishments, one cell presented a very remark. accomplishments, one cell presented a very remarkaccomplishments, one cell presented a very remarkable appearance of stained yarn; there were, I suppose, fifty to sixty specimens of patterns on the walls, so nicely executed as to resemble paper of different colours, in imitation of flowers and various other objects. They were also allowed the use of baths; and each individual is compelled, for the sake of cleanliness, to take it once a fortnight."

There are some politicians in the Old World who will not be displeased to hear from a New-World patriot that England is "an incorrigible, insatiable, unappeasable, unsatisfiable, unresting, never yielding, always grasping, never receding, always encroaching, unconscionable bloody pirate."

The remainder of the volume is confused and dull. It is difficult to discover the object of Dr. Sharing the confused and state of the confused and the confused ject of Dr. Shaw's elaborate parenthesis on education and politics, which runs through several chapters. The book is at once super-ficial and pretentious.

In this second narrative of travel, Dr. Shaw is discursive without limitation. The reader is caught up in a revolving storm of gossip, and whirled from the Prairies to the Lincolnshire coast,—from the pine woods of Norway to New Zealand, to the Jura, and to Dijon. Dr. Shaw, moreover, is at times a musical critic; next he practises medically upon his readers; then reads him a few chapters of various his-tory, a speech of Burke, or Chatham, or an American protest; but he is chiefly occupied with his recollections, egotistic, conversational, critical. We are delighted by a full and particular account, with flute-like variations, of "a gentleman in a plaid dress,"—patronymic not mentioned; but Dr. Shaw assures us he is

of the Midland Counties, who, in the absence of the servant, in one of the most magnificent houses in England, reached out the wine him-self, placed the sponge-cake and fruit upon the table, moved the chairs, and stood behind me with the decanter in his hand, and helped me like a common servant." What a Boswell is here—shorn of his beaver, and painfully articulating in obsequious prose! Obviously Dr. Shaw does not expect to be ridiculed. He should not publish his recollections.

Ceylon, Past and Present. By Sir George Barrow, Bart. With a Map. Murray.

"In January, 1657, the Ann frigate, of London, commanded by Capt. Robert Knox, sailed from the Downs, in the service of the East India Company, bound for Fort St. George; and, after trading for more than a year, from port to port, in India, the vessel was lading its goods to return to England, in November, 1659, in the road of Matlipatam (Masulipatam), when a mighty storm so disabled the ship that she could not proceed on her voyage to England." The agent at Madras, or Fort St. George, sent the vessel—which is the subject of Sir G. Barrow's somewhat cumbrous opening sentence —to Trincomalee, in Ceylon, to be repaired. In those days Ceylon was a terra incognita to the English, whose earliest settlement, at Armegon, on the neighbouring coast of Coromandel, was but of thirty-two years prior date. Capt. Knox, not being versed in the wiles of the natives, was led into a snare by the King of Kandy, and captured with his son and eighteen of his crew. He paid for his credulousness with his life, being carried off by fever not long after he was made prisoner; and his son gives a piteous account of his death and burial, and the proposal of the natives to assist at it, by dragging the corpse "by the neck into the woods, with a great rope they used to tie their cattle withal." Robert Knox the younger, however, who seems to have been a worthy, pious, and somewhat superstitious man, lived on, was well treated with his fellow prisoners by the King, and finally escaped to the Dutch fort of Arrepa, or Arippo, on the 18th of October, 1679. He wrote a very faithful account of his captivity, valuable from its truthfulness, and entertaining from its simplicity; and it is this dish that Sir G. Barrow serves up with comments and a supplement. Knox's narrative had been republished entire, in 1817, by Philalethes, as the Rev. Mr. Bissett chose to call himself; and we confess our belief that it does not gain in interest by being exhibited in small excerpts, pieced together by a running commentary or summary. In this shape, it resembles those woods at Colombo described by Mrs. Heber, of bare stems of trees joined together, but strangled, by huge parasitical plants.

The supplementary part of Sir G. Barrow's little volume,—in which he describes the present flourishing state of Ceylon, and gives a brief description of remarkable places, and a still briefer historical epitome,—is interesting, and the map is so good that it would atone for a thousand and one faults if there were that famed Oriental number in the book. Without looking for the thousand, we will cite the one, and that is with reference to the devil worship, to which even the Singhalese incline, but which is the religion of the Tamilians. It should have been especially noted that this has nothing to do with Brahmanism or the religion "a well-known man," and "related to two of the Aryans, and did not so much as spring from it as a corruption. It was the original by performing antics and drollery for the amuse-one "paid a visit to one of the greatest lords" belief of the Scythian aborigines before the nation professing the Brahminical creed entered master had hired him, he induced them to teach

India, and the bloody sacrifices to Kali or Durga and all the sanguinary abominations of which Sir E. Tennent speaks, were, in all pro-bability, borrowed from it.

The statistics furnished by our author supply some pleasing facts. Ceylon had a revenue of 476,273l. in 1854; and 70,664l., the surplus over expenditure, was added in that year to 30,000l., a previous saving, so that the colony is free from debt, and has commenced a reserve fund for emergencies. The coffee planting, which declined in 1845 owing to commercial panic, and nearly succumbed in 1847 under a combined invasion of rats and bugs, was never so flourishing as now. The yield in 1854 amounted to 483,205 cwt. of the declared value of 972,462l., and the crop of 1856 promised to be the largest ever known. The tobacco cultivation is most flourishing; and even the pearl fisheries, which had been discontinued for eighteen years, were recommenced in 1855 with decisive success, and every prospect of a large and regular return in future. At the same time the educational and missionary movements are no whit behind the progress made on the continent of India. Such returns allow us to conclude Sir G. Barrow's work with much satisfaction, and are the most pleasing extracts we can make from it.

Anthony Burns: a History. By Charles Emery Stevens. (Boston, Jewett & Co.) Autobiography of a Female Slave. (New York, Redfield.)

Kansas; its Interior and Exterior Life. By Sara T. L. Robinson. (Boston, Crosby & Co.; London, Low & Co.)

THE works before us throw a light on the nature of the struggle which is now beginning to convulse America, and which, having once to convuise America, and which, having once begun, can never cease until the question of Slavery is worked out. There no longer remains any possibility of compromise; but the prospect is a fearful one, "and the end is not yet." The story of Anthony Burns, the fugitive slave, is an authentic, but confused and ill-arranged, narrative, by an eager partizan, whose excess of zeal prevents him from speaking intelligibly. The details are amplified to diffuseness; but they confuse the reader from the absence of all per-spective in the arrangement. The story begins, spective in the arrangement. The story begins, in the middle of things, with the arrest of Anthony Burns, as a fugitive slave, in Boston, Massachusetts, May, 1854. The account of the trial is confused. It is like a tumult in the street, where the eye-witnesses are the last people who can understand the meaning of what is going on. An attempt was made, by a body of the citizens, to rescue Burns before the trial came on. It failed; and, after a judicial inquiry, where the Judge allowed his own bias to appear in a manner which, to an Englishman, seems wonderful, the claim to the recaptured slave was pronounced to be fully established, and the luckless man was delivered over to his master. We recommend all who read the book which is the second part of the work. They
may thus be able to follow events in something
like their natural order. The history of Burns. like their natural order. The history of Burns as a slave is extremely interesting; and it has a healthy, life-like look, which stands in curious contrast to the highly-wrought, sentimental declamations of fictitious slavery narratives. Burns was possessed of remarkable energy, ability, and address. From early youth he entertained the project of escaping from slavery. He had an intense desire for instruction; and, by performing antics and drollery for the amusehim to read and spell. His owner was in the habit of leasing Anthony out to different persons at so much a year. Anthony made "the resolution never to abide long with the same master,"—so that, when he should escape, there might be less chance of identifying him. The following is a curious illustration of a phase of

slave life :-

"Meeting his owner, Suttle, near the close of the year, the latter greeted him with compliments.—
'Well, Tony, Mr. Brent speaks very well of you. He likes you so well that he has hired you for another year.—'But, Mas'r Charles, I have n't hired him,' said Anthony, with the confident tone of a slave conscious of standing well with his master.—'What's the matter? Has n't he treated you well?'—'Yes, mas'r, but——'Some reason, though of course not the real one was assigned.—'Well, it can't be helped now, for I've agreed to let you stop with Mr. Brent; and besides, he pays more for you than he did last year.—'Jes' you say, mas'r. The woods is big enough to hold me.'—The argumentum a sylva is a prevailing one with the slaveholder. Col. Suttle yielded, and the bargain was broken up."

Anthony Burns contrived to learn not only to read, but to write. He was an intelligent, valuable servant, and remarkable for his faculty of telling the truth. Clearly, he was not a man to allow himself to be detained in slavery. At one time, however, he was assailed by conscientious scruples as to the right of a religious slave to run away from his owner. The case of Hagar, who was ordered by the Angel to return to her mistress, gave him great perplexity; but he balanced the case of St. Paul and Onesimus against the Angel and Hagar, and concluded that he should be quite justified in running away as soon as he could. With the assistance of a friendly sailor, he was concealed in the hold of a sailing-vessel bound for Boston. He suffered greatly on the voyage from cold, starvation, and sea-sickness; but, at the end of three weeks, the vessel reached Boston. Anthony got ashore unobserved, and easily obtained employment, so soon as he was sufficiently recovered to work. He bore the terrible reverse of his recapture with great firmness, and endured four months' imprisonment in a loathsome jail with a lofty patience, which showed that he still retained the better part of freedom -the element by which alone a man can be truly free. He was sold finally to a slavedealer, named M'Daniel, for 905 dollars. This real slave-dealer may stand as a set-off against the Legrees and Tom Gordons. He was a fine fellow. The beautiful mob-element came into play to prevent the sale; and, whilst Burns stood upon the block, he was in imminent danger of his life from those who were furious that he had escaped. M'Daniel, however, was quite able to hold his own, but "he was obliged to remove his obnoxious slave by night." M'Daniel had an iron will, which was law; "but he could appreciate and honour manly qualities, and he made it a point of honour to fulfil his engagements." He treated Burns well, and Burns served him faithfully. Anthony's northern friends discovered whither he had been taken, and wrote to his master, offering to purchase him. An answer was promptly returned, that he might be bought for 1,300 The sum was raised, and M'Daniel prepared to keep his agreement. We extract the following passage both as a specimen of the book and as a curious insight into the American freedom of a slave state:

"It was at no small risk to himself that he was about to set at defiance the public sentiment of the South by sending Anthony back to the North. Monday morning found master and slave on their journey northward by rail. Before they had proceeded ten miles, M'Daniel's apprehensions were realized. Through the carelessness or treachery of

a friend whom M Daniel had made a confidant, it ! became known that the obnoxious fugitive was on board. The passengers were quickly in a tumult, and it was proposed to stop the train and put the 'boy' out. The conductor protested that had he known in the outset who Anthony was he would not have permitted him to enter the cars at all. The firmness of M Daniel, however, held the mob spirit in check, and Anthony was at length suffered to proceed without further molestation. On arriving Norfolk, they immediately went on board the steamer bound for Baltimore. Leaving Burns in the vessel, M'Daniel went back into the city to transact some business. Meantime the mischievous passengers of the railroad train had circulated the news of Anthony's presence. The waspish little city was at once thrown into angry commotion and forthwith swarmed in a body on board the vessel. There, on returning soon after, M'Daniel found his man Anthony surrounded by the chivalry of Norfolk, and half dead through fear of their threatened violence. Sending him below deck, M'Daniel faced the excited throng. They demanded that he should forego his purpose, and offered him fifteen hundred dollars for his slave. He declined the offer. They then pressed him to name his own price. His reply was that he had agreed to take Burns to Baltimore and he intended to keep his word if it cost him his life. They then attempted to move him by intimidation, but this only roused his spirit. For an hour and a half, with pistol in hand, he kept them at bay. At last, he was allowed to depart on giving assurance that if the Massachusetts purchasers failed to keep their appointment, he would immediately return and dispose of Burns at Norfolk."

Fortunately for Anthony, his friends were punctual. After a few technical difficulties interposed by the law, the transaction was concluded, and Anthony Burns departed a free man. It would be scarcely prudent for him to venture into a slave state; but he is living happily in one of the Northern States as a regularly ordained minister of the Free Black Church. There is a curious chapter concerning what befell the Judge who surrendered Burns. It makes us rejoice that we do not live under the rule either of American law or American justice, in cases where popular opinion is enlisted.

The 'Autobiography of a Female Slave' is a volume of high-flown sentimentality, mixed up with ghastly and minute details of the floggings and brutalities to which slaves are represented as exposed. The "Female Slave" declaims in the "Ercles' vein," and appears to be the embodiment of the popular ideal of "a tragedy queen." It is a foolish, exaggerated, nonsensical book, and presents a remarkable contrast to the true story of Anthony Burns.

'Kansas,' by Mrs. Robinson, the wife of "Governor Robinson," contains a great deal of interesting information about the country, which she describes as a paradise of beauty and salubrity. Her descriptions of the early days of her emigrant life are vivid and amusing; but the political events being narrated as they took place day by day have all the fierce tumult and confusion of a party struggle in a half-civilized country. It was a case of civil war between the free-soilers and the pro-slavery men, both parties being equally ready with their bowie knives and revolvers. The following incident is characteristic:—"Several pro-slavery men, chiefly from Missouri, assembled in the vicinity of the tent, and kindly notified to Dr. Robinson 'that if he did not remove the tent in thirty minutes they should.' The reply was, 'If you molest our property you do so at your peril.'
The citizens of the settlement gathered to
witness what would be done, and waited patiently for the half hour to expire. At last one asked another, 'Whether it would be best to hit the first man who attempted to remove the tent, or to fire over his head? The reply

was, 'I would be ashamed for the rest of my life to fire at a man and not to hit him." course the tent was left in peace. During the progress of the election for members of the state-senate, the confusion and lawlessness are represented as something terrible, "Governor Reeder having been loudly threatened with assassination unless he granted the certificates of election examined the papers with pistols cocked near him." All this is narrated journal-wise, as going on side by side with the daily rough-andready life of settlers, it reads like an authentic record of facts as they occurred, but facts require time and distance before they can be understood, and, in spite of the minuteness of the details, the general reader will only gather a confused idea of the course of events in Kansas. There is a description of the attack upon the Town of Lawrence, and "The reign of terror in Kansas,"—the free party getting the worst in the struggle. We had marked several passages for extract, but they are so involved with the general story that we could not detach them with any advantage. Mrs. Robinson is an intrepid woman, who is quite equal to any emergency, domestic or political, and her book will be a contribution to the history of the struggle. It requires, however, digesting and arranging, and, above all, condensing, for it is diffuse and at times declamatory, beyond even the permission of an American authoress. Mrs. Robinson writes with "the natural vehemence of the female character," but always in a healthy and honest spirit.

#### MINOR MINSTRELS.

Fancies and Feelings. Collected and Edited by Henry Parkinson, Barrister-at-Law. (Dublin, M'Glashan & Gill.)-We would not be thought to inculcate the doctrine that a parent ought to be ashamed of his own offspring, if we have a commendatory word for Mr. Parkinson, who, diffidently collects and edits his poems rather than appear on the title-page as author. In pleading for them at the critical bar, Mr. Parkinson does not own them; possibly he might think that an air of orphanage about them would be all the more interesting to us, and touch our kindly sympathies. Truly they are nothing to be proud of. But the Preface is too like the Poems for us to mistake the relationship. We should think there are very few "who have leisure to read such writing in this age of utility." The verse is of that tolerable kind which is think and suffer."

The verse is of that colerable to those who think and suffer."

Young and sentimental maidens may be excused for writing such in Albums when they languish in some dim dreamland of the Ideal and overflow with the "gushing" affection they are ready to lavish on a lover or a lap-dog. But to find the same unbearded soul sighing in a bearded body, and in a public way, is not quite so excusable. We suppose Mr. Parkinson to be a man, seeing that he is a barrister-at-law, therefore we need have no hesitation in telling him he has no poetic gift whatever. If he does not know it, he must be told. No one has any right to stop people whose time is precious, unless he has something to say. If he have nothing to say, let him keep silence. If he can show us how life has gone with him, and give adequate expression to what he has known or all have felt, we shall be among the most willing of listeners. Thousands of people have strong feelings who are unable to translate them into spoken thought. The poet does this for us. It is no disgrace to fail in attempting to do this; but it is quite necessary to know what are our qualifications for the attempt, and our chances of success, before a good aspiration grows into a perverse

The Norman Invasion, and The Day of Rin-rory: Poems. By a Bowman. (Richardson Brothers.)—It is too late in the day to follow in the footprints of Scott in ballad poetry. He reaped his harvest-field pretty cleanly, so that Prof. Aytoun, who has it all to himself, will have to labour hard if he is to live by the gleaning. Else, there is considerable spirit in these two poems, and an evident predilection for ballad verse. Had the author been a bowman in the old time, we doubt not that he would have sent the shaft home. We feel an indica-tion of this in his lines. There is metal in them; but it needs a longer welding on the anvil before he can hope to send the poetic shaft right home to the mark straight over the heads of our thronging multitude of Minor Minstrels. We give an extract from 'The Day of Rinrory.' The changes in the measure are not skilfully managed, but here and there the lines are picturesque and effective. At the close of his last hot and bloody day, cool and "bloody Clavers" lies dying in the gloom .-

pody Clavers" lies dying in the glo
There is a gathering on the haugh
By the dim house of Urrard's trees;
Borne to the pass upon the breeze,
That o'er the war-field blew a cooling air,
The cry of men, the wild burst of despair,
Chills the hot cateran at his toil,
And rings a note has power to draw
The spoiler from his spoil.
Shivering, to the call they troop,
As they breathless join the group;
A Lowland horseman they can see,
Against whose boot and bended knee
The form of some great man is laid,
Wrapy'd in a classman's chequer'd plaid. The form of some great man is laid,
Wrapp'd in a clansman's chequer'd plaid.
And close there stands a tall dark horse,
Whinnying trembling on the gorse,
The breath of whose quiv'ring nostrils red,
As it stretches out its crest-fallen head,
Touches the face of him who lies as he were dead—
Fell Claverhouse discharm'd by lead.
His last brave word went forth as reel'd
The war around: "How goes the field?
"Well for my king? It matters not to me!"
And never more to man spoke dark Dundee.
Then rose again the bitter cry
Of the clansmen to the calm cool sky; Of the clansmen to the calm cool sky: Beneath the starry, moonless cope, They bear their general up the vale's dim slope. His wan face to the stars To his last field his feet, The dark mover of dark wars
Suffers the forced retreat.
Wrapt in his mort-cloth plaid, in stirless gloom
Passive the Victor goes to the victorious tomb;
Now with the burst of sorrow at its height,
Now with the trailing silence of the night.

Poems—[Poésies]. By C. F. Lerambert. (Paris, Lévy.)—Whether it be an insular superstition or not, we labour under the persuasion that our allies have fewer Minor Minstrels among their men and women of letters than we: need they grudge us the advantage? Be this as it may, the newest member of the "Caveau," on whose songs we have fallen—M. Jules Lagarde gives us nothing in his lately published 'Chansons' (Garnier) to tempt us to loiter, -nor are many words claimed for a yet newer minstrel -M. Lerambert. His muse is meditative and melancholy, rather than festive: his inspiration has not been derived from M. Béranger or Desaugiers or Bérat, so much as from Millevoye and Delavigne, and MM. Lamartine and Victor Hugo. The sentimental sadness of the modern French lyrists of the first class has, when best, too much of the musk-rose and the jessamine about it,—too sickly-sweet an air for our English lungs to breathe in easily. We have left far behind the humour of the Merrys, and Jerninghams, and Whalleys. Those to whom Cowper, and Crabbe, and Wordsworth do not suffice,-who covet stronger emotions, and will be sorrowful in their verse, scorn elegies, and must have their spice of Byronism; -but that number again is waxing few-since now if the melancholy Jaques rail against Lady Fortune, he must do so after the fashion of Locksley Hall, not 'The Dream.' He must hearten himself up in his despair, by prophesying concerning the liberty of "the peoples,"—or the

rich-and-poor question. The lack-a-daisical school of dreamers, in short, is defunct in England; but that its members have not ceased The lack-a-daisical to weep little tears, and to sigh feeble sighs in France, these 'Poems' by M. Lerambert indicate. They are gentle, gentlemanly and graceful, though they do not yield a meditation or a contemplation worth paraphrasing. They include, too, translations from Schiller and Moore, and Mr. Milnes, whose "Pine Tree and Palm' M. Lerambert seems not to have recognized as being itself a translation from one of Heine's

Sir Hieram's Daughter, and other Poems, by Robert Villiers Sankey (Hope & Co.), has nothing to recommend it beyond a fertile feebleness, and a facile knack of marshalling the veriest commonplaces in rhyme,-all of which have been used thousands of times before.—The Mysterious Birth, Travels, &c. of Flaceus-cum-Whimsicalus: a Poem, in Two Cantos, by Hi-Bealdare Ben-Ali (Hall & Co.), is intended to be funny, but the intention is by no means realized. We presume, from the mention of various incidents in the hero's career, that the portrait is meant for Mr. Disraeli. The style is an imitation of 'Beppo,' but the author has no one qualification for success;—neither the graceful gracelessness of manner, nor the peculiar melody of measure like talk in Italian; nor do any of the stanzas come to a climax in those happy unexpected smart turns which are essentials of this kind of verse. -The Ruins of Kenilworth, by Wm. Reader (Dean & Son), is a long historical and traditional narrative, in octo-syllabic verse, with several pictorial illustrations. It chronicles the me-morable associations of the old castle, and some of the notes are interesting. One of the engravings, purporting to be a copy of the original fresco at Newnham Paddox, in Warwickshire, fresco at Newnham Paddox, in Warwickshire, which has been destroyed, gives a distinct idea of the place in 1620.—Sweula Tria: an Allegory of Life—Past, Present, and to Come. By Wyke Bayliss. (Bogue.)—A search after some dim personification of the "Spirit of Beauty," "Music," and the "Angel of Poesy," which three graces Mr. Bayliss has not yet found, either literally or figuratively. He hopes to reach them in worlds not realized, and trusts to meet the reader there.

#### NEW NOVELS.

The Eve of St. Mark: a Romance of Venice. By Thomas Doubleday. 2 vols. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

—A tale of Venice—of skiffs passing into shadows on the Grand Canal, -of unknown friends dropping doubtful hints, - of magnificent Senators, carved doors opening into apartments with windows of deeply-dyed glass, -of a wondrous girl, with black hair, black eyes, black lashes, symmetrical as Phryne, but unknown and mysterious in all her ways. Really, Mr. Doubleday, whom we have been accustomed to hear expounding the sins of Peel's Bank Act, the history of Finance, and the regulating principles of population, has been at work with very luxurious materials. But what might not be expected from a writer who ceases to expatiate on paper-money that he may revive old snatches of Northumbrian music? It is not surprising, then, to find an economist dipping a pencil into the rich colours of Venetian romance; but it was hardly to be expected that his attempt should prove successful. Yet 'The Eve of St. Mark' is not only well written, but adroitly constructed and interesting. Its tone is, perhaps, too gorgeous: its movement is too much that of a masquerade: there is a want of invention, perhaps, in the linked circumstances of the story; but a mystery is created, a very loveable heroine is pourtrayed and decked in the foreground of the drama, the fascinations of "sweet Paynim" fancies are added to cast a wild or the light into Mr. Doubleday's picturesque interiors; them the bearings of the land regulations in the

and, upon the whole, the effect is somewhat imposing. It is to be regretted that a less repulsive catastrophe was not selected, since the martyrdom of Validée and her father is sickening in its suggestion, and altogether disappointing to the reader. We have had many worse novels from pens practised in the art than this first romance of Mr.

tased in the art than this first romance of Mr. Doubleday's imagination, tinged with archieological study and reminiscences of middle-age mysticism.

The Second Wife: a Novel. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)—In 'The Second Wife,' a second wife is quite a secondary personage. She is neither the heroine nor the principal agent in the story,—which might have been fitly named 'The Mysteries of the Turret; or, the Priests of Greystone Abbey.' For it is a tale of sacerdotal fraud; and the successive incidents are worked by means of a grand apparatus of secret doors, winding staircases, false signatures, private rehearsals of Roman ceremonies, and other powerful machines and insinuating processes by which the grand climacteric is attained. The romance, it should be said, centres around a splendid building, Greystone Abbey,—a place of Monte-Christo richness, belonging to a sickly young Earl. In the neighbourhood are situated all those eligible premises and delightful grounds, with the tenements and farms adjoining, known as Marwood and Charnwood,—Marwood being the property of Miss Georgina Bloomfield, and Charnwood, of Sir Reginald Estcourt, the experimental husband who weds the second wife. It is unnecessary to unravel the pattern of the plot,—which is singularly complex, though not very opaque,—but it may relieve some readers to know that the step-mother is not a vain, vile, harsh, corrosive embodiment of jealousy, but a sweet woman, delicately drawn. Her step-daughter, Blanche, is a character pourtrayed with much skill, and in tender, attractive colours. In-deed, the writer has studied human nature to more purpose than social life; for, while her dramatic personages are in every instance capable of in-spiring a certain interest, her picture of modern manners abounds in magic-lantern effects, in Otranto shadows, in Persian brilliancies, in all that is unnatural and not artistic. The pleasant folks upon the stage are involved in an eddy of cross-purposes, -one, Lord St. Ormonde, loving the very girl whom he cannot marry, and another fight-ing for his inheritance with the Jesuits; Blanche being smitten with a soul-agony by a paragraph in a fashionable paper; Lord de Vere being kept in a state of affliction by the unfounded prejudice of his parents; Sir Perceval Grant, in the Court of Chancery, unmasking his Dominican son, who expires on the spot; two or three looming lady's-maids playing the parts of snakes for Mother Church; a forged a fraudulent signature, and various other intricacies being wrought into the tissue. A most unaccountable recognition takes place on board a sinking ship; the heroine is rescued by her lover from the myrmidons of an Italian nunnery. The interest, in fact, is kept at high pressure; but, at interest, in fact, is kept at mgn pressure, and at the same time, the narrative begins with a dis-solution of Parliament, and almost ends with an election. In point of style, the novel exhibits no little care, and some taste, although its author is excessively ornate in her recitals of ball-room epics, excessively of rate in ner rectails of ball-room cycle, through which her Helen glides in a floating robe "of pink aerophane," her hair bound with "ropes of Roman pearls," while Blanche wears a headdress of pale seawed, and everybody else displays something uncommonly fine. The dialogues, as dress of pale seaweed, and everybony else displays something uncommonly fine. The dialogues, as might be expected, are full of elaborate pedantry, illustrating the slightest possible acquaintance with the realities of actual English life; but the story is entertaining, and sufficiently well managed to supply a conventional novel reader's fancy with an agitation occasionally warmed into excitement.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The New Zealand Settler's Guide: a Sketch of the The New Zeatand Settler's Guide: a Sketch of the Present State of the Six Provinces; with a Digest of the Constitution and Land Regulations, and Two Maps. By I. Rhodes Cooper, Capt. 58th Regiment. (Stanford.)—Capt. Cooper offers emigrants the advantage of his personal experience in logical and eminently practical advice. He points out to these the persons of the land regulations in the

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various New Zealand settlements; he presents them with reliable statistics in proof of the salubrity of the climate; he explains to them the machinery of the constitution to which they will be subjected; and, while he does not fail to lay before them a picture of the hardships they will have to endure as immigrants, he cheers them with the promise of a rough and hearty reception by the settlers. The country is a tempting one to Englishmen. Where the grape, and peach, and melon ripen in the open air, beside the apple and the pear—where the ploughshare can pierce the soil throughout the year-where sheep and horses flourish wonderfully -where ploughmen earn 10s. daily—where money may be safely invested at interest varying from 12t. to 25t. per cent.—and where sawyers may earn their weekly 51. note-Englishmen who are playing a losing game at home will find a fresh and profitable field. Capt. Cooper dwells, however, like all men who have written guide-books to any of our colonies, upon the hopeless position of genteel clerks and dainty ladies cast into a settlement to shift for themselves. He warns intending emigrants against merely lady-like wives, and points, with a stern finger, to the kitchen, where the colonist's lady must inevitably figure, and master all the mystery that lies in the manufacture of a light New Zealand is not the sphere for Houbigant's customers. The warning, so often sounded, and now trumpetted again, proves the melancholy frequency of the mistake. Hundreds of young fellows, fagged in dusty city offices, are inspired by pictures of the fresh sea over which they will sail to a glowing landscape, rich with fruit and flowers. And they throw aside the manifold-writer and the red-ink bottle—levy a few pounds upon their friends-disport themselves in shirts of startling patterns-provide themselves with faultless meerschaums—give a parting supper to their com-panions—and leave with a cheer, and the wave of a gold-laced cap, for the land of promise, that lies a gold-inced cap, for the land of profiles, that hes beyond the bright blue sea. Sea-sickness at once opens the list of their disenchantments. This list is generally a long one, closed perhaps by "that refuge for the destitute," according to Capt. Cooper, "a Government appointment, which often leaves them in a more dependent situation than they might have been in had they remained at home. It is to intending emigrants of this class that we cordially recommend Capt. Cooper's Guide, because in it they will be brought face to face with the work that New Zealand institutions will demand of them. The picture is bright enough for men who have strong muscle and stout hearts, accompanied by housewives unmindful of Berlin-wool work and life in three volumes post octavo; but it is a most doleful one for the gentility of Kensington or Fulham. We advise even this gentility, how-ever, to judge for itself. The summary of all the colonial experience with which we have come in contact has gone to prove beyond a doubt, to our minds, that neither in New Zealand, Australia, the Cape, nor Canada, is gig-keeping a profitable employment.
The Gates of the East.

Ten Chapters on the Isthmus of Suez Canal. By C. L. Kenney. (Ward -Mr. Kenney has been so eager to run & Lock.) through his subject that he has treated it in a style the reverse of satisfactory. He remarks, with reference to the project of the Suez Canal, for which he has conceived so devoted an enthusiasm, that "though the subject has been discussed by the organs of parties of the most varied opinions, there has not, up to the present day, been a single voice raised in opposition to the plan on political grounds."

If such objections exist, he adds, they have been These obveiled with "the profoundest secrecy. servations would seem to imply that Mr. Kenney has only recently adopted his admiration of M. de Lesseps' scheme, for by more than one "organ" objections have been raised on political grounds; these objections, moreover, are felt by the prominent advocates of the canal, and are, also, seriously considered in England and at the Porte. No writer is qualified to take up so important a discussion unless he has followed it through its several phases. Mr. Kenney glances superficially at the general question,—skimming M. de Lesseps pamphlet, but not contributing materially to the arguments

ever, the main point is one of practicability; and M. de Lesseps' project will be deemed feasible—when it has been carried out.

Ages of Christendom, before the Reformation. John Stoughton. (Jackson & Walford.) -Stoughton's retrospect commences with the thirty-first year of the Christian era, and ends with the burning of the Pope's Bull, by Luther, in 1520. The first, or formative, age of Christianity he considers to have closed with the death of the last Apostle; the second, with the holding of the Canonical Council of 325, for the authoritative declara-tion of orthodoxy. In the third period, consummated by the second general Council of Nicæa, the principle of tradition is proclaimed, theology beomes systematic, Church and State are organized. A fourth epoch, dating from 787, carries authority to its climax at the fourth Lateran Council :- after which agitation and reaction begin to work through a fifth era, until the portals of the Reformation are reached, early in the sixteenth century. Mr. Stoughton does not assume to have prepared a map of Christian history, marking off idealism from traditionalism, or development from reaction, with positive exactitude; but he justifies his attempt to trace certain general boundaries, and follows the progress of religious society from one stage to another in a spirit of grave and liberal investigation. We must content ourselves with stating the object and scope of the book.

Australian Essays on Subjects Political, Moral, and Religious. By James Norton, Esq., Sen. (Longman & Co.)—Mr. Norton is a member of the Legislative Council of New South Wales, and has resided in that colony for the last thirty-four years. These Essays have been the occupation of his leisure These Essays have been the occupation of his relation to hours. The subjects are various:—Port Jackson, the Genius of Australia, the Press of Australia, the Constitution Question, Ireland, Memory, Beauty, Eternity, Baptism, &c. Mr. Norton remembers that art is long and life short, and seldom writes more than two or three pages on the same topic. He has a fluent facile manner, he thinks seriously, he expresses himself with quiet candour, and proves his claim to rank among elegant amateur essayists. The volume is a creditable example of Colonial

literature.

Light: its Nature, Sources, Effects, and Appli-cations. (Society for Promoting Christian Know-ledge.)—This work, written in an essentially popular style, will probably be read by persons who desire to obtain a conversational amount of knowledge without much labour. Like most of such works it wants exactness, and upon many points it is calculated to lead the reader away from the truth. It is to be regretted that an established Society should issue works on science which are not the productions of original investigators. However careful a compiler may be, it is almost impossible that he should be able to draw correct deductions from the facts with which he must be but imperfectly acquainted. A considerable amount of mischief is done by the promulgation of incorrect ideas, the progress of knowledge suffering actual retardation, since the public receive from such books as this conclusions which are wide of the truth. It is a practice but too common now-adays for a certain class of writers to possess themselves of the works of other men, and by altering the arrangement of words in a sentence, to put the arrangement of words in a sentence, to put forward the thoughts as their own. This is unjust to the real labourer, who is thus deprived of his fair reward. We regret to say that this book is a glaring example of this sin,—even the principal illustrations in the work being literal copies without acknowledgment from original woodcuts, in two publications devoted to investigation on the subjects embraced in 'Light: its Nature, &c.'

A Manual of Latin Prose Composition for the Use of Schools, with a Preface. By Rev. H. M. Wil-kins, M.A. (Parker & Son.)—A stepping-stone much needed between elementary exercises and selections from English authors for translation. For want of some such intermediate work, many have either never ventured beyond the writing of

already familiar, and, as some think, refuted. How-1 duce correct and idiomatic Latin renderings of our writers. The present manual is divided into three parts—the first containing almost literal English translations of passages from writers of the golden age, to be re-translated into Latin; the second, passages from English authors, both in their original form and in an altered shape, suited for literal translation into Latin; and the third, a number of topics for original Latin composition, with references to abundant sources of material upon each. Some of the most eminent scholars and professors have contributed to the second part, which is thus ren-dered highly valuable. By observing how they have adapted modern English for the purposes of translation into Latin, the student may himself gradually acquire the freedom and classical taste sential to succes

A System of Mental Arithmetic. By Thomas atc. (Longman & Co.)—This is a Pestalozzian book; and such books are always useful, as this one will be. What is here called mental arithmetic means the preliminary arithmetic which is to be taught before the children write figures. We see but one little matter to object to. Fractions are illustrated by cutting objects to pieces which have individual characters, or the character of individuals, as apples or potatoes. Now the halves, the thirds, &c. of an apple are of figures different from the whole, and though undoubtedly it is not the apple which is fractionized, but its bulk, yet the bulks of the parts differ from the bulk of the whole by other differences besides those of bulk. An apple cannot be cut into apples. Now there are many reasons why fractions should be presented as homogeneous with the unit of which they are parts; so that some simple magnitude should be taken, as length, the parts of which differ from the whole in nothing

but length.

A Cyclopædia of the Physical Sciences. By J. P. Nichol, LL.D. (Griffin & Co.)—We do not read dictionaries through; but if all the articles of this one be of an average equal to the average of the score which we have examined, it takes its place at once, and of course, among standard works. And we do not doubt that it will do so. There is no special novelty of plan, and there is plenty of room for enlargement in future editions: the ground of our opinion is the excellence of the matter, the freshness of the articles, and the attention which has been paid to bringing in the most recent views and discoveries. A dictionary must contain com-pilation; but this is not a compilation from dictionaries. Good works have been consulted; and the writers of good works have also contributed. Sir W. Hamilton, of Dublin, Dr. Robinson, of Armagh, Mr. Archibald Smith, Prof. W. Thomson, Prof. Rankine, and others, who have made subjects their own by original investigation, have made this dictionary original by writing on their own subjects. We sincerely hope that it will have such decided success, that original investigators of all kinds will be glad to condense their own doings into a form fit for the pages of future editions, leaving the editor to deal with their articles on the points of length, expression of opinion, and addition, in his own way.

Christianity and Infidelity: an Exposition of the Arguments on Both Sides. By S. S. Hennell. (Hall & Co.)—A very mean sum of money having been offered in Glasgow for the best exposition of the arguments for and against Christianity, Miss Hennell, to our surprise, has produced an excellent epitome. Her plan is to state, in regular order,— first, the objections of infidelity to Christianity, with strictly relevant answers, in parallel pages; and second, the objections of Christianity to infidelity, to which the replies are printed in a similar manner. The contrasted pleadings are sometimes condensed, sometimes quoted; but in the attempt to fill up her scheme the compiler admits herself have been often frustrated by the difficulty of finding answers fairly corresponding to the objections—so much easier of statement. Miss Hennell —so much easier of statement. Miss Hennell starts from that point of the discussion at which the nature and reasonableness of revelation come under view, advancing thence to the particular marrative short sentences without any connexion, or have had to toil a long time under great discouragement and with indifferent success in attempting to pro- historians; and next, considering the whole series our

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impartial analysis. We have not met with a better manual for the use of religious students. England and Russia Natural Allies; or, Dis-Englana and Russia Natural Alties; or, Distinct Views of Political Economy. By Bernard Moncrieff. (Edinburgh, Jack.)—The superscription of this book should have been 'The Opinions of Mr. Bernard Moncrieff on Things in General,'—but the author fancied that he had a fine para-—but the author fancied that he had a fine paradox for his title-page. The truth is, that the notion of a natural alliance between England and Russia is merely a supplement to the "distinct views,"—which we may less euphoniously characterize as a jumble of incoherencies, of conceit, platitude, and absurdity. The volume, its author warns us, "is rather the prospectus of a larger work than a separate treatise,"—so that we must deal with it while it is yet manageable. Mr. Moncrieff then seems afflicted with that disease of continuous which makes the sufferer serently unconegotism which makes the sufferer serenely unconegotism which makes the sunerer screenly disconsions of ridicule. He is confused, even in his fallacies, and he thinks them distinct. He is ignorant, and he treats all rivals as dunces. He is superfatively pert, and writes as though he had been employed to burlesque the oracles of Zoroas-Having certain fancies about political and social science, he finds certain theories in his way, social science, he finds certain theories in his way, and with amusing levity tosses them into limbo as jargon, sophistry, casuistry, and nonsense. He calls Voltaire an atheist, and implies that Rousseau was a silly, wild, and degraded ascetic. What Lord Brougham found impossible, he finds easy,—and he imagines that the reader will find it pleasant to follow him rhapsodizing about "kneeling violets" and "burning roses." Not to track Mr. Moncrieff tediously through his chapters track Mr. Moncrieff tediously through his chapters of threadbare truisms and trash—aggravated by a weak and violent use of "denominational language," it will be enough to mention that he talks of the working classes of France, under the Republic of 1848, "filling their pockets with the forged notes of socialism," and of massacres and plunder which took place in Europe during the last insurrectionary period, and "surpassed only in extent by the worst excesses of the First French Revolution";—and alludes to such men as M. Mazzini and M. Kossuth as persons who "cast up with the dust raised by the storm,—continued the habits of their native dunghills." Thence, wandering in a style that is calculated to Thence, wandering in a style that is calculated to excite compassion to the laws affecting the press, he displays his knowledge of French (moral and intellectual) life in this way:—"All the Paris journals, with the exception of the Moniteur, might be suspended ad infinitum without producing any other material derangement than a blank in the list of amusements." Other speculations follow: but (parenthetically) Mr. Moncrieff deplores "that sort of starched prudery" which prevented Washington from becoming a king. Returning to the press, he proposes "a judicious and uniform system of taxation, imposed upon all publications of every description," so that they might be "made dear by the imposts laid upon them," and then "be impressed with the spirit of those entitled and called upon by law to take a direct and indirect share in public affairs." In fact, the press ought to be "the expressions of the wealthy and enlightened classes." Having thus declared, Mr. Bernard Moncrieff, after involving himself hopelessly in a discourse on France and Russia, trusts he has "touched some chords, the vibrations of which will re-echo along the solid compartments sort of starched prudery" which prevented Washof which will re-echo along the solid compartments of the English understanding." We may safely leave him to the enjoyment of the anticipated

Pamphlets on a variety of public questions crowd our table:—An Argument for not proceeding immediately to Repeal the Lawswhich treat the Nuptial Bond as Indissoluble, by the Rev. John Keble, M.A.,—The Late War, "by a Christian,"—The Principality of Nepchâtel, and its Events since 1814,—The Hostilities at Canton, by Augustus S. Stapleton,—Public Opinion on Administrative Reform and Financial Reform, by a Tax-payer,—Contraband Opium Traffic, by Major-Gen. Alexander,—The Opium Revenue of India,—The Euphrates Valley Route to India, by Two Travellers,—and Letters on the Monetary System, by Samuel A. Goddard.—The Pamphlets on a variety of public questions crowd

Oude Question stated and considered, by W. P. Hale, is a dull and cumbrous review of official documents, -The Marcy Convention, by Bole Pojis, is portionately and extravagantly smart,—while Sam Sohndkohkur's Ryde fro Ratcha to Manchister is a congestion of unreadable slang and distortion of language. We have two interesting pamphlets on Slavery, a Plan of Brotherly Copartnership of the North and South, by Elihu Burritt, and Economical Causes of Slavery in the United States, and Obstacles to Abolition, by a South Carolinian. The subjects to Abolition, by a South Carolinian. The subjects of crime and penal law are treated in The Ticket-of-Leave System in Australia and in England, by the Leave System in Australia and in England, by the Rev. W. J. Rislake, "ten years chaplain in Tas-mania,"—Suggestions on the Treatment and Disposal of Criminals, by Sir Thomas Tancred, Bart.,—Mr. John Frost's Letter to the People of England on Transportation,—Capt. Maconochie's Mark System of Prison Discipline,—What is to be done with our Criminals? by Charles Pearson,—Suggestions for the Formation of a Penal and Reformatory Settlement for Convicts on the Peninsula of Mullet, on the Coast of County Mayo, Ireland, and The Second Annual of County Mayo, Ireland,—and The Second Annual Report of the Belvedere Crescent Reformatory and Ragged Factory. Miscellaneous topics are discussed by Mr. Malcolm Lewinin The Young India Partyand Free Trade,—by Mr. Henry Willoughby in A Few Words on the Question, Whether there is by Law any Effective Control over the Public Expenditure,—by Lord Brougham in a Speech on the Property of Married Women, now published in a separate form,—by Dr. A. Kilgour in The Scottish Universities and Wheth Reference in them. —by Dr. A. Kilgour in The Scottish Universities and What to Reform in them,—and by anonymous writers in An Inquiry into the Origin of the Liverpool Town Dues,—and Remarks on Expected Government Guide-Book for Political Officers.—Mr. E. W. A. Tuson's Paper on Consular Law and Consular Duties is evidently based on special knowledge.—In Scotch Life Assurance and Scotch Life Offices, an argument is cleverly set forth against the Scottish system of Life Assurance.—"A Cambridge Man," in The New Palaces of Administration, makes "an earnest Appeal to the competitors, the public, and the Committee."—Mr. John Mitchell, C.E., offers Practical Suggestions for relieving the over-crowded London Thoroughfares, securing Improved Means of Locomotion, and Draining the Metropolis generally.—Mr. motion, and Draining the Metropolis generally.—Mr. R. Rawlinson publishes a Report to the Local Board of Health at Tynemouth on the Completion of the Public Severage Works.—Reports of the Chorley Severage and Drainage,—The Risks to Life and Property from Racing on the Ocean,—The Duty of the Master in the Government of a Masonic Lodge, by Dr. J. T. Townsend,—The Eleventh Annual Report of the Devon Lunatic Asylum,—Tventy Aphorisms on Consumption, Scrofula, dv., by Dr. H. M Cormac,—An Address to the Meteorological Society of Scotland, by Dr. J. Stark,—Dr. Stark's Report on the Meteorology of Scotland for the Last Quarter of 1856,—The Monogenesis of Physical Forces, by Mr. Alfred Smee,—Instructions in the Oriental Languages, specially as regards the Education of Candidates for the East India Civil Service, by W. Nassan Lees,—Who should and who should not Emigrate to Canada, by Laus India vivu cervice, by W. Nassau Lees,—Who should and who should not Emigrate to Canada, by H. R. A. Boys,—and Canada, a Brief Outline of her Geographical Position, &c., published at Toronto, "by authority," need only be mentioned.

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# SIMONIDES MSS. IN THE LIBRARY OF SIR THOMAS PHILLIPPS, BART.

I inclose a list of the Simonides MSS., with my remarks as to those which I consider genuine or not .-

J. Chrysostomus de B. Virgine Maria, Græce, thk. f. ch. s. xv. dk. cf. 1208 pages. A Treatise on the Laws of Greece.

Ditto on the Marriage Law of Greece.

Catalogue of Patriarchal and Archiepiscopal Seats. Formulary how to address Archbishops, &c., s.

thk. 4to. s. xv. charta bombyc. Τω en agiois proseemωn Ιο. Archiepi. Constantinopolews tou Chrusostomou, eis ton makarion Philogonion genomenon apo Diokolou episcopou, f. ch. bombyc. s. xv. pp. 770, but the first 98 pages are lost, and also pp. 199 to 210, 309 to 348, 363 to 408, 522 to 628, 635 to 650, 666 to 678, and 704 to 714, and all after 770. to 718 are double paged, and also 763 to 770; so that there are 784 pages, minus those that are lost. The last tract is, Amphilochii Episcopi Logos eis teen Theotokon.

A Fragment of a Menologion, beginning "Autee Keerukou kai Ioulittees kai athleesis."

Cyrillus, Episcop. Alexandriæ, in B. Virginem. Athlisis tees Kalliparthenou Marturos Marinees Germanus, Archiepis. Constantinopol. in B. Virginem.

Exegesis Gregorii Theologi in Apocalypsin. Tract on Arithmetic, s. 4to. ch. s. xvii. with an

Autograph (of the transcriber, probably) at the end, pp. 208. Nili Cabasilæ, Archiepiscopi Thessalonicæ, Syn

tagma, imperfect, 4to. ch. s. xvii. pp. 166. Theodorus Antiochenus in Prophetas, f. ch. bom-

byc. s. xvi. pp. 364.
Panselinos twn Zwgraphwn; or, Manual of Painters, 8vo. ch. s. xviii. or xix. ½ cf. gilt.—This is probably a copy by Simonides himself. It seems to have been purposely dipped in tobacco-water to make it look old.

Meletius's History of Byzantine Painting, s. fol. V. s. . . . . 53 leaves.—This may possibly be a copy by Simonides, dipped in tobacco-water and strangely used to make it look old. The work itself, I believe, has been published in French by M. Didron, of Paris.

A MS., in Arrowhead Character, on Vellum. An evident forgery, supposed to be done by S. Three lines in Greek capitals, at the end, are half washed out, in order to make them look ancient. s. 4to. V. s. xix. 6 leaves.

Euleri Ethnica, 3 leaves, s. 4to. Vel.-This, also, I suspect to be a forgery.

Neocomi Historia Byzantina, 4 leaves, s. 4to. Vel. Another forgery, probably, similar to the last.

The above two MSS. on vellum are written

in the same kind of brown ink.

A Leaf torn out of a New Testament, containing the Verses relative to those who were bidden to the marriage feast but would not come, s. 4to. Vel. s. xiv.

Homeri Ilias. The First Three Books, written on a Roll of Vellum, 211 inches long, 21 broad

This MS. is in a most unusual character, which induces many persons to deem it a forgery (as well as the Hesiod which follows). Some of the characters resemble those upon the Lycian monu-The & is exactly like that upon the Greek pottery found by Dr. Duncan M'Pherson in the graves and tumuli of Kertch, 1855-6. It is written in Greek capitals, so small as not to be read with-out a magnifying glass. It is also in Boustro-phedon—a form, I believe, never before seen on vellum MSS., although frequent in inscriptions on marble and vases. At the head of the poem are the names of persons, supposed to be Archontes, written in fourteen columns, one letter under another, in the Chinese manner. Under these are four horizontal lines; so that the whole looks

like a temple with fourteen columns, standing upon four steps. The first lines of the poem are written (like the columns above mentioned), one letter under another, in four columns, as far as verse . . . . , after which the lines run from left to right, and right to left, alternately, in Boustro-phedon. This has so much the appearance of a MS. which had been long used by some person who loved to read the poet, that I cannot bring myself to believe it to be a forgery of Simonides. If it is, it is the most wonderful and successful attempt ever accomplished. The strongest part of the evidence against him is, that the man is so mysterious about his acquisition of these MSS. straightforward, honest person would state at once, with all candour, where he obtained it, and how. With all this mystery, we are certainly tempted to say "Quid non audebit Græcia mendax?" He showed me a small leaden jar, like an ink-pot, in which he said the Hesiod was found. It had been covered with pitch, or bitumen. It is possible that such a jar, so covered, might preserve its contents for 2000 years uniquired by atmospheric action. But I have a Latin MS. which is 1200 years old, which has been exposed to all the wear and tear of human fingers, as well as atmospheric action, which is as fresh and fair now almost as when it was written, except where injured by actual water having touched it. Is it not possible, then, that this Homer may be a relic of the Alexandrian Library, which was burnt only about 1200 years since? Hear what Mr. Bowen says, in his remarks on Mount Athos:—"A great migration of monks and anchorites took place hither (Mount Athos) when Egypt, their first stronghold, was conquered by the Saracens. large proportion of the holy exiles settled down on the peninsula of Acte, forming a society, which is utterly without parallel in all history." Is it not possible that the librarian, prior to the assault of the Caliph of Alexandria, might have put this roll, 2 inches broad, and half an inch thick, into his pocket and carried it off? Is it not possible that this roll may have been written in Lycia, and thence transferred to the Alexandrian Library? Or may it not have been written in Etruria (where we know Boustrophedon was used), and obtained by Ptolemy from that country? At all events, from whatever country it may have come, I feel almost convinced that neither this nor the Hesiod almost convinced that neither this nor the Hesiod has been forged by S.; and other persons, I think, may be convinced by comparing them with those MSS, which I suspect really to be his forgeries, as in the case of the Phocylides below, and the Palæphatus and Æschylus, which are still, I believe, in his possession. Cicero speaks of having seen the Iliad written so small that it could be put into a nutshell; I presume he meant a walnut shell. Although this Homer is not so small, yet I have the whole of Anacreon, which is capable of being so inclosed.

Hesiodi Opera, i. e., Opera et Dies, Theogonia, Scutum Herculis. On Ten Rolls of Vellum, in a rather larger Character than the Homer.

The same characteristics of long usage and evident antiquity attend this MS. as in the Homer, and it is written in the same formed letters and in Boustrophedon. The length of each roll is 101 inches, breadth 2 inches. There is a repetition of part of the Scutum Herculis, of which the old title seems to have been erased, and the following inserted, with evident tampering and interpolation, "Hesiodou Sigaloenta epee ews phoros. follow eleven lines in characters, which are not Greek, but resemble Arabic. Then follows the above-mentioned repetition of part of the Scutum; after which is another poem, in the supposed Arabic character, and then comes this title, in Greek, 'Hesiodou Orai,' on the last membrane but one, which continues to the end of the tenth membrane; but the whole poem of the 'Orai' is in the supposed Arabic sharacter.

Anacreontis Carmina, on four skins of extremely fine and thin vellum, about 1 inch broad, and This is written smaller than the 7 inches long. Homer, and the vellum is almost transparent. The letters are so small as scarcely to be read even with the magnifying glass, but as I have read some lines of it, I know it to be Anacreon.

This MS. would undoubtedly go, with ease, into a walnut shell, and if it were doubled up, and compressed into the smallest space it is capable of, it would unquestionably go into a hazlenut shell.

Pythagoræ Aurea Carmina. This is written on vellum almost as fine as the Anacreon, on one skin about 4 inches long, and 1½ inch broad. On the dorse is a Rubric almost erased.— Neither this nor the Anacreon do I believe to

be forgeries.
Tyrtæi Odæ. A Roll on two Skins of Vellum, 19 inches long, and 24 broad. This I am inclined to think is a forgery of Simonides, who has here imitated the characters of Homer and Hesiod, but in a much larger hand, and in evidently more modern writing, and the ink is clearly not the same. This is in Boustro-phedon, and some of the Odes are written in the form of temples, crosses, axes, eggs, &c. Phocylidis Carmina, &c.

Aristotelis Pæan.

Rianos Cretensis peri Aphrosunees. A Roll on seven skins of vellum, 13 inches long, and 44 broad. In Greek capitals, in the fine large hand of Simonides, and in his brown ink, which still smells strongly of the perfume in its com-position.—There is a remarkable fact in this MS. that it gives the country of Phocylides, which was not known, apparently, to Fabricius. The title runs thus, 'Phokylidou Eurustheωs tou Milesiou Poiema Nouthetikon.' It contains also some Variæ Lectiones from the first Aldine edition, and in one instance a verse is transposed. At the end is written verse is transposed. At the end is written "Tees ieras kai Vasilikees Monees twn Thessalonikewn.

A Charter of ... ... to ...... a Roll on Vellum, sec..... 241 inches long, and 71 inches broad. The painting in the beginning is obliterated, apparently on purpose, This bears a suapparently on purpose. This bears a suspicious look of forgery, but may possibly be

genuine.

Another similar Charter of ....... to ..... the same suspicious character, with a painting smeared and obliterated like the other, but which has been gilded, and the writing in both has some appearance of having been written with gold ink. On Vellum, 23½ inches by 7½, backed with cloth.

A third Charter more suspicious than the others and more obliterated. There has been a paint-ing, but it is rubbed out. On vellum, 28 inches

long by 111, backed with cloth.

THOMAS PHILLIPPS. Yours, &c.,

#### WHERE IS DR. LEICHARDT?

Mr. S. Sidney, author of 'The Three Colonies of Australia,' read a paper at the Geographical Society on Monday week, which he had received from a Correspondent, a squatter in the Wide Bay district of New South Wales, and which embodied the opinions of several more experienced northern explorers and personal friends of Dr. Leichardt: Frederick Walker (of the Native Police), Charles Archer (of the Fitzroy), James and Norman Leith Hay, and Archibald Ferguson.—"All were agreed," says Mr. Sidney, "that there is no proof of the death of Leichardt, although nothing has been heard of him since he left Cogoon, on the 8th of April, 1848, because, as he must be living by hunting, he can only travel at the rate of three or four miles a day, and would have to leave those cases abounding with game which are frequent in the interior of Australia. Those who make this assertion have themselves lived for weeks on the produce of the woods and water-holes. They attach no importance to Mr. Hovenden Hely's report, obtained from an old Black Gin (woman), that Leichardt's whole party was cut off and destroyed at a creek 150 miles from Wandaigumbal, on the Condamine. The remains of pack-saddles brought back by Hely prove not to have belonged to Leichardt, but to two squatters, Mitchell and Headly, who lost themselves on foot in the bush while searching for 'runs.' None of the large train of bullocks and mules have returned to the settled districts, which they would certainly have done if the party

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station, according to H. Hely's theory, but within 600 miles. Both the horses of the two lost squatters were recovered by the native police. According to bush experience, when blacks attack cattle, they never get more than one or two,—the rest, with natural fear of blacks, gallop back home for bundreds of miles. In short, as no trace has ever ters were recovered by the native police. According to bush experience, when blacks attack cattle, they never get more than one or two,—the rest, with natural fear of blacks, gallop back home for hundreds of miles. In short, as no trace has ever been found of Leichardt, it is considered certain that he went at least 1,500 miles too far for any live stock to return. They consider that Leichardt probably took his last expedition on Sir Thomas Mitchell's route as far as that officer reached; and Mitchell's route as far as that officer reached; and from thence would follow, on one side or other, the coast range or backbone of the Australian continent,—thus making sure of water and food for his party. That he was too practical a bushman, in an attempt to proceed westward, to push into a desert so fearfully illustrated by Sturt;—but that, having reached the longitude of Port Essington, in endeavouring to get south-west from thence he has got into some difficulty from which he cannot easily extricate himself. That the difficulty would commence south-west from Port Essington, where, as it is probably a flat Port Essington, where, as it is probably a flat country, the Expedition might have to wait for the winter or a wet season to travel,—for that, if the south-western coast is badly watered, Leichardt might be stuck fast with a desert between him and might be stuck fast with a desert between him and water, waiting for a wet season to travel. That he may be depending on some friendly tribe for daily food,—that Charles Archer, an excellent bushman, who was an intimate friend of Leichardt, has stated that years ago the Doctor lived for months in the power of, and depending for his daily sustenance on, Aborigines, who were at the same time at war with neighbouring squatters,—that he is probably detained in friendly captivity as a deity or curiosity, that heing the reversiling as a deity or curiosity, that being the prevailing feeling of the Aborigines of the interior on their feeling of the Aborignes of the interior on their first sight of a white man,—or that perhaps he is gradually finding his way back,—and, therefore, that if it took him three years to reach the part where he was stopped by a desert, it will take him more than double that time to get back, as he would have to hunt for food, and could not travel was them three or four miles a day. Under these would have to hunt for food, and could not travel more than three or four miles a day. Under these circumstances (not expecting any results from Gregory's expedition), Mr. Sidney's correspondent suggests the following plan of an expedition in search of Leichardt, which has been matured by the most experienced Northern explorers,—explorers seeking grass and water. It is to consist of fifteen of the native black police mounted on horses, commanded by a single experienced white officer, accompanied by forty-four pack-horses, carrying the provisions and outfit, which is specified in detail. The expedition would start from the furthest pastoral station in the Port Curtis or Leichardt district (not from the coast, because the Leichardt district (not from the coast, because the coast grasses always throw horses out of travelling condition). It would make out Leichardt's track, which the blacks would follow up like bloodhounds, and certainly recover Leichardt or some of his party, or his papers or distinct remains of him. The task would not be difficult to the black troopers,—first, because Leichardt always maybed the trace of his because Leichardt always marked the trees of his camp; and, secondly, because his numerous cattle and mules would, after a fortnight, form into single file, and leave a distinct trail that would remain plain for twelve or fourteen years in a country un-occupied by cattle. Sir Thomas Mitchell's tracks, twelve years old, are plain to this day. Frederick Walker, of sixteen years' experience in the Australian bush, six of which have been spent in civilizing and disciplining with the greatest success the black native police, has offered to take charge of the expedition without pay or outfit, confident of success, and willing to risk his life to solve the mystery hanging over the fate of the great Australian explorer. The expedition would have to be

topacco, and two chests of tea. Of the accompanying packborses, 30 would carry the flour in greased canvas bags, 10 the sugar, 1 the tea, another the tobacco, a third two small tents eight by eight, and saddles, a fourth the clothing. The rations allow for breakfast and supper, no dinner rations unless killed in the bush. The travelling rations unless killed in the bush. The travelling is calculated at 10 miles a day, the highest average for a grass-fed horse for 365 consecutive days. The coasting vessel would carry the second year's rations and clothing, and wait, if needful, six months after arriving at the port fixed. The charter of this coaster would cost 1,600l. The total estimate is in round numbers, 4,500l. The rations would be insufficient for white, but are sufficient for black men, who can thrive where The rations would be insufficient for white, but are sufficient for black men, who can thrive where white men would starve. The advantages of this plan are, that having no drags to impede their travelling no delay would be experienced in crossing ranges, rivers, swamps, or going round scrubs, and that as the rations were consumed the pace would be rather increased than slackened. Horses are preferred to mules because sufficiently hardy, more tractable, wander less, and are special objects of the attachment of the black troopers."

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE new Parliament will be no less literary than THE new Parliament will be no less literary than the old. The Authors of 'Don Carlos,' 'The Lady of Lyons,' and 'Coningsby' will meet on the old benches, as well as the Authors of 'The Credibility of Early Roman History' and the 'Letters on the State of Naples.' Mr. Layard is out, for the moment, and his absence is a loss to the House, as a representative of English culture. Mr. 'Eöthen' Kinglake however, is in, as a compensation. One

moment, and his absence is a loss to the House, as a representative of English culture. Mr. "Eothen" Kinglake, however, is in, as a compensation. One advantage arising from an appeal to the people which appears to have fixed the present Ministers more firmly in their seats, is, that Literature may rely more surely on the historical work lately undertaken by the State being energetically conducted and wisely completed. The thanks of all serious readers are due to Sir Cornewall Lewis—and to Sir John Romilly—for the resolution with which the work is now being done.

Lord Breadalbane has appointed Mr. Donne, formerly librarian to the London Library, Licenser of Plays, vice J. M. Kemble. Mr. Donne has long acted as deputy-licenser,—the appointment is therefore officially right; but we confess our own opinion is, that the one office in the gift of the Crown closely connected with the drama should be held by a dramatist—of course, a dramatist retired from active stage production. Indeed, a second question arises out of such a succession. Are we to understand that in future the Licensers of Plays—like the Czars of Muscovy—may appoint their dynasties? How did Mr. John Kemble arrive at his nomination? Was it not as deputy to his father? How did he fulfil his duty? Ry handing it over to Mr. tion? Was it not as deputy to his father? How did he fulfil his duty? By handing it over to Mr.

did he fulfil his duty? By handing it over to Mr. Donne. Is Mr. Donne's deputy to be the next Licenser? The question is not one of personal objection, but of principle; and thus, Mr. Charles Kemble's deputy's deputy can hardly be installed in the emoluments of his office without a protest.

Mr. T. S. Baynes, the well-known pupil of Sir William Hamilton, and author of 'The New Analytic of Logical Forms'; and Mr. Alexander Bain, author of 'The Senses and the Intellect,' have been appointed Examiners in Logic and Moral and Intellectual Philosophy at the London University, in the place of the Rev. H. Alford, (recently appointed Dean of Canterbury,) and Mr. Burcham.

tratian explorer. The expedition would have to be rationed for one year, and met by a coasting vessel, with provisions and clothing for a second year, at some port to be appointed by the leader of the Expedition. It is observed, what would be fearful hardships to others, to Frederick Walker with his aboriginal troopers would be merely a tedious pic-nic. Wherever there were grass and water there they would find food, i.e., kangaroos and length of the sixteenth century. Add to these

works a portrait of Elizabeth, and the circle is complete,—the story of half a century is told.

The committee of the Manchester Exhibition selected Mr. Thomas Wright to succeed Mr. Kemble as Curator of Saxon and Celtic Antiquities,—but on careful inquiry into the state in which Mr. Kemble left his work, they despaired of completing it in time,—and therefore absorbed the scheme of a Saxon and Celtic Antiquities Department. Saxon and Celtic Antiquities Department.

Saxon and Celtic Antiquities Department.

A friend gives us an amusing account of Mr. J.

M. Kemble's Lectures at Cambridge 'On the History of the English Language,' to which we alluded last week as having been unsuccessful. He says:—

"After making a good deal to do about them, he obtained the use of the Divinity School to lecture in, and it was pretty well crowded at the first lecture, but the Lecture itself was such a sickener and so unintelligible, that at the second myself and I think two others formed the whole audience. The appearance was so absurdly ridiculous in the larger appearance was so absurdly ridiculous in the large room, that Kemble gave notice, in announcing the day of his third lecture, that in future he should deliver them at his own private apartments. Mean-while his father, Charles Kemble the actor, came while his father, Charles Kemble the actor, came to see him, and on the day fixed for the third lecture, nobody was there to hear him but his said father and me; upon which, when we had waited in vain nearly an hour for an increase of audience, I moved, and his father seconded the proposal, that instead of inflicting the lecture upon us two, the lecturer should send into Trinity College buttery, as it was then the hour it was open, and procure a quantity of ale and cheese, for the excellence of both which Trinity College was celebrated, and with the aid of these we passed the afternom. Such with the aid of these we passed the afternoon. Such was the end of Kemble's lectures."

A sale of bookbindings occurred last week. The reserved library of the late Mr. E. V. Utterson, Member of the Roxburghe Club, came under the Member of the Roxburghe Club, came under the hammer, on Friday last, at the rooms of Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson, and realized 4,107l. 2s. 6d., chiefly for the bindings. The former portion of this collection sold for 4,77ll. 6s. 6d. This portion was rich in old romances, poetry, and quaint literature, several in the beautiful bindings of Grolier, Maioli, Thuanus, Count Hoym, and other collectors of olden time. The prices were generally extraordinarily high. Boccaccio, Il Decamerone, the Aldine edition, with several leaves facsimiled, sold for 8l. 10s., on account of a brace of old ornamented sides let rather clumsily into modern binding,—Dore, L'Image de Vertu, a specimen of Grolier binding, 5l.,—Drayton's Poems, printed about 1605, 16l. 15s.,—Holbein's Dance of Death, first edition, 17l. 6s. 6d.,—Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, brong, 1. Image de Vertu, a specimen of Großerbinding, 5l., —Drayton's Poems, printed about 1605, 16l. 15s.,—Holbein's Dance of Death, first edition, 17l. 6s. 6d.,—Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, printed by Pynson, imperfect, 23l. 10s.,—Golden Garland of Princely Delight, an old songster, 5l. 2s. 6d.,—Gerard de Nevers et Euriant de Savoye, Paris, 1526, 15l. 15s.,—Howelglas his merye Jestes, imperfect, 12l. 5s.,—Homeri Ilias, Turnebus's edition in Grolier binding, 14l. 5s., the real value of the book being the odd 5s.,—Horse B. Mariæ Virginis, Paris, 1550, in Grolier binding, 14l. 5s.,—Jovius de Romanis Piscibus, a shilling book in Grolier binding, of which it is a beautiful specimen, 37l. 10s.,—Juvenalis et Persius, Aldi, 1535, uncut, in Grolier binding, with Thuanus's arms on sides, 23l.,—Love's Garland, one of the chapbooks formerly sold on London Bridge, in 1674, 6l. 2s. 6d.,—Jordan's Royal Arbor of Loyal Poesie, imperfect, but curious, as fixing 1663 as the date when the first woman acted on the stage, in 'The Moor of Venice,' 4l. 4s.,—Merlin ses Prophesies, Rouen, 1526, 21l.,—Livre du Roy Modus, Trepperel's edition, 2sl.,—Atchievements of Robin Hood, 1678, 12l. 15s.,—Officium B. Mariæ Virginis, MS. with illuminations, 130l.,—Pierre de Provence et la Belle Magnelonne, 18l. 5s.,—Rommant de la Rose, 42l.,—Tindal's Translation of the Pentateuch, printed for the martyr at Marpurg, in Hesse, 1630, and certainly a work of excessive rarity, 130l.,—Ysaie le Triste, perhaps the rarest of the Romances of the Round Table, 43l. Nearly the whole of these lots went to the trade; but many of them were bought on commission. A few of the choice lots are for the British Museum.

Mr. Ingleby, in a letter too long to publish in full, answers "Indagator's" charges of plagiarism,

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—by pretty nearly confessing to the accusation. He pretends, indeed, that he has improved the stolen matter, and so justified the appropriation. To this Dr. Thomson and Mr. Baynes, were it worth their while, might strongly demur. We have looked at the passages for ourselves, and find "Indagator" substantially correct. We see no possibility of gain by carrying the discussion further.

With every wish to be useful in our generation, we are obliged to decline the seductive applications of many kind friends. We shrink, for instance, frem the responsibility of directing the conscience of X. Y. through the masses of the Puseyite controversy. We may not undertake to instruct J. R. in "the easiest method of learning Greek." We fear to discuss for the benefit of Isabel the Ring-in-Marriage mystery. But more than all we hesitate to recommend to R. O. "the best work on the Systematic Study of Science,—on Physiology applied to Education,—on Euclid Simplified,—the most simple, clear, and easiest to be understood English Grammar;—the best Text-book of Logic, or Logic made Easy,—of Natural Philosophy, where the laws of nature are made transparently clear,—of Chemistry;—the best work on Instinct and Reason, positive view,—all rendered perspicuously and transparently clear,—on Death, positive view." The flatteries involved in such requests are of course pleasant enough, for we are only mortal; but our Correspondents must see that if we were to devote ourselves to their individual wants, it could only be at the sacrifice of our ceneral duties.

only be at the sacrifice of our general duties.

M. Emile Augier, the dramatist, has been elected
a member of the French Academy

a member of the French Academy.

M. Dufrénoy, the eminent mineralogist, died a few days ago after a short but painful illness. He was associated with M. Élie de Beaumont in the management of the French government mines, and with that gentleman executed the geological map

of France. At one of the last meetings of the Académie des Sciences, at Paris, M. Guerin-Meneville produced a number of wheat-halms of more than seven feet in height, each of them bearing several splendid ears. This fine species of wheat derives its origin from five grains that were found in an Egyptian tomb, and thus had for thousands of years been preserved from all external influence. Sown out preserved from all external innuence. Sown out in 1849, they grew up luxuriantly, and yielded a twelve-hundred-fold produce,—in consequence of which M. Drouillard made various comparative experiments in Southern and Central France, as well as in Brittany. In 1850, these experiments were made on a large scale, and assumed a more important character. Since then they have been regularly continued, and the results have been officially confirmed. One half of a field was sown with the Egyptian, the other half with our common wheat; the former gave sixty-fold, the second a fifteen-fold produce, while commonly a seven or eight-fold produce is considered a fair one. Sown out by single grains, the Egyptian wheat yielded a five-hundred-and-fifty-six-fold harvest. The experiments are now made in always increasing extension, and not less than 1,000 kilogrammes of "mummy-wheat" have been sown this year in the arrondissement of Morlaix. These remarkable facts, we should say, may furnish matter of speculation to the natural philosopher.

"The second number of the Giambattista Vico," says a friend in Naples, "has just made its appearance in the form of a large octavo volume, of about 157 pages. As you have been already informed, it is under the auspices of H.R.H. the Count of Syracuse; and, as a speculation, will, of course, succeed in a country where every one tries to conciliate and fears to offend Royalty, even though it wears so liberal an aspect as does His Royal Highness. It is not, however, as a pecuniary speculation that we wish to regard it, but as a periodical work, new of its kind, and holding out the promise of better things in future. The names of the contributors embrace some of the great literary and scientific celebrities of the kingdom; and amongst them, strange to say, are some who have suffered for their liberalism and their mental cultivation. The connexion, in this country, is, of course, inevitable. It will be sufficient to mention the names of Tosti and Kalefati, of

Montelassinio, of Delenzi and Raffaele Napoli -the first one of our most eminent medical men. the second a distinguished chemist, — Gasparis, the astronomer of world-wide fame; Minervini and Fiorelli, who have done good service to the cause of archæology; Costa, well known as an eminent naturalist; not to mention others, who, in their several spheres, enjoy a high reputation. of course, articles proceeding from the pens of such men must possess merit; but it is to be regretted that the very conditions under which the work issues render it somewhat heavy. It is not a volume that one could read as he lounges in his arm-chair; it does not touch upon any of those subjects of current interest which command the attention of all who mingle with the world. This is not the fault of the writers or the projectors, but of the lamentable position in which this country stands. Were such subjects as those discussed in English periodicals to be treated by the Giamhattista Vico, in spite of its princely patronage, the work would be stopped in the censor's room, and the writers would be placed under the surveillance of the police. The best thing has been done, therefore, that the circumstances of Naples permitted, and measures have been taken for the circulation of ideas in a restricted circle. The first number of the Giambattista Vico has in its table of contents articles on 'Dante and the Nineteenth Century,' 'Gothic Architecture,' 'The Countess Matilda and the Roman Pontiffs,' 'Critical History of Works on Zoology and Palseontology published in Naples from 1851 to 1856,' 'Notes on Palæontological Discoveries made in the Kingdom in 1856,' 'Researches on the word Tarl,' 'Notes on the Application of Science to Neapolitan Arts,'
Numerical Formulæ and Tables for the Solution 'Numerical Formulæ and Tables for the Solution of the Problem of Kepler,' On the Homography of Figures,' Notices of Vesuvius,' and one or two other articles. The second number offers the following articles: — 'Dante (continued),' 'Montecassino and Charles the Great,' 'The Countess Matilde,' 'Thoughts on the Necessity of the Study of the History of Madicine,' Charles of the History of Medicine,' 'On Arsenic and Antimony sought in Cases of Toxicology with Precise Re-action and a Simple and Ready Method,' 'Classification of a Graceful Fungus found in the Sands of Cumes, 'Description of some Species of the Order of Tremelloidi (Fries), 'On the Figure of Equilibrium of an Elastic Bar without a Weight,' &c., 'Numerical Tables for the Solution of a Pro-blem of Kepler,' 'Researches on the Nomenclature of Roman Vases,' 'Hercules and the Amazons.' I give you the table of contents of both numbers to assist in the formation of a just idea of the work itself. His Majesty, I hear, subscribed for sixteen copies of the Giambattista Vico,—six of which are retained for the use of the Palace and ten distributed amongst the Members of the Academia Pontaniana. There was a desire felt to demia Pontaniana. There was a desire felt to recommend it to the Lyceums and Colleges; but the Minister of Public Instruction first consulted His Majesty on the subject, whose answer is related to have been 'don't trouble yourself at all about it."

Mr. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, BADEN, UP THE RHINE, and PARIS, is NOW OPEN EVERY EVENING (except Saturday), at Sight o'clock—Skalls, as, 'Ares, 2s, 'Gallery, la. Skalls can be secured at the Box-office, Egyptian Hall, Plocadilly, every day between 11 and 4, without any extra charge.—The Morning Representations take place every Tuesday and Saturday, at Three o'clock.

Mr. W. S. WOODIN'S OLIO of ODDITIES, with new Costumes and various Novelties, vocal and characteristic, every Evening (Saturday excepted, as Eight A Morning Performance every Saturday, as Three. Private Boxes and Stalls may be secured, without extra charge, at the Box-Office, PoLYGRAPHIC HALL, King William Street, Charing Cross. The Hall has been entirely re-decorated.

re-decorated.

HAYMARKET THEATRE—C. H. ADAMS'S ORREBY.
Twenty-seventh Year in London.—On MONDAY NEXT and
during the week (Good Friday excepted) Mr. C. H. Adams will
have the honour to deliver his ANNUAL LECTURE On ASTRONOMY. Begin at Eight, end about Ten. Stalls, 3a; Boxes, 2a 6d,
and 3a; Pit, 1s. Children and Schools half price to Boxes and
Pit. Places may be secured at the Box Office, and at the principal
Libraries.

THE GREAT TOBACCO CONTROVERSY.—Dr. Sexvon will Lecture on this important topic daily, at 3 and hair past 7 r.m., at DR. KARIN'S MUSEUM, No. 4, Coventry Street, Leiesetz Square. The Museum, which now stands wholly unrivalled in the world, and the rarity and completeness of whose contents have already acquired for it an European reputation, and obtained the warm commendation of the press in this and other countries, is OPEN DAILY, for gentlemen only, from 10 to 10. A new Lecture is delivered by Dr. Kalba, set had past 6 n. b. presidely.—Admission, 1s. Descriptive Catologues of the Lucrum, containing Lectures as delivered by Dr. Kalba, gratis to the visitors.

EXHIBITION - Messra DICKINSON'S GALLE RES of PORTRAITS, NOW OPEN. 114, New Bond Street.-Admission. 18.

#### SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—March 26.—Gen. Sabine, R.A., V.P., in the chair.—The following paper was read—'On an Element of Strength in Beams subjected to Transverse Strain, named by the author the Resistance of Flexure,' by W. H. Barlow, Esq.

ASIATIC. - March 21. - Prof. Wilson in the chair. ASIATIC.—March 21.—Prof. Wilson in the chair.—Dr. Buist, of Bombay, gave a short account of the principal Railway Works now in progress in Western India, chiefly in reference to their moral and industrial influences upon the people of the country. Betwirt the bottom of the Bhore Ghaut and Sholapore there were at present above 40,000 natives employed, earning three or four times as much money as they had ever before received. Nothing could be more perfect than the arrangements of the contractors, nor more admirable than ments of the contractors, nor more admirable than the conduct and characters of the Europeans con-nected with the concern. He illustrated the operations in the Bhore Ghaut by a collection of sketches made by himself while examining the works six weeks ago. The incline here is 15 miles in length; the total ascent, 2,000 feet; the steepest gradient is 1 in 38; the easiest, 1 in 78; the average, 1 in 40. There are twelve tunnels, one of them 437 yards in length, and three large viaducts, the arches of one being 150 feet in height, and 40 in span. The cost of this section was 63,400l., and span. The cost of this section was 63,4004., and would be completed in six years from the date of its commencement, in June, 1856. There were at present 10,000 people engaged on it. One ton of gunpowder was exploded daily,—the average charge being 12 lb., fired from about 200 mines. These were exploded almost simultaneously, when the people were at dinner. Dr. Buist described the people were at dinner. Dr. Buist described the extraordinary effect produced when, in the dead stillness of noon, and in one of the most secluded and magnificent scenes in the world, every precipice, dell, and nook sent forth one magnificent burst of sound, and a deep cloud of smoke, for a time, shaded those below from the fierce rays of an Indian sun. - At the request of the Meeting, Dr. Buist promised to extend the sketch which he had now given, and to deliver a lecture on the subject at the next Meeting of the Society, on the evening of the 18th of April, when he would be prepared with drawings and plans illustrative of the scenery described and the works in progress of execution. A scaled reader was in progress of execution.—A sealed packet was laid in the table from Henry Fox Talbot, Esq., containing a translation of the inscription on the large cylinder of Tiglath Pileser the First, in the British Museum,—a copy of which, prepared by Sir Henry Rawlinson, had been furnished to him by the Trustees of the British Museum, with the concurrence of that gentleman. Sir Henry Raw-linson, as it was well known, was preparing for publication translations of all the more important inscriptions from Nineveh and Babylon; and the object of Mr. Talbot's version now sent was, that those persons who doubted the reality of the decipherment of these ancient monuments might be furnished with two versions of the same inscription, made in entire independence of each other. Mr. Talbot observed, that "all candid inquirers must acknowledge that, if any special agreement should appear between such independent versions, it must indicate that they have truth for their basis." For this purpose, it was important that the seals should not be broken until Sir Henry Rawlinson's translation was published. The Secretary engaged to keep the sealed packet in safe custody for this desirable object. Dr. Julius Oppert, who exhibited to the Society some specimens of the publication he is preparing in France, illustrative of the French researches in Babylonia, stated that he was now engaged upon the cylinder of Tiglath Pileser, and engaged upon the cynnder of light in leser, and requested that he might be allowed to deposit his version, when completed, with the Secretary of the Society, for the object of more fully carrying out the views of Mr. Talbot, by affording three independent versions of the same document. This was assented to.

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SOCIETY OF, ANTIQUARIES.—March 26.—F. OUVTY, Esq., Treasurer, in the chair.—The Rev. T. Hugo exhibited a large collection of Signacula, in pewter, found in the bed of the Thames.—Sir H. Ellis communicated some particulars respecting the Portrait of Henry Good, a deer-hunter of the last century, in the possession of the Treasurer.—Mr. J. Bruce read 'A Notice of Unpublished Documents relating to Thomas, Lord Buckhurst, and Recorder Fleetwood.' 7.P., ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE. - April 1 .noral

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—April 1.—
Samuel Birch, Esq., in the chair.—Mr. A. Masson
was elected a Member.—Mr. Oldfield finished his
paper 'On the Temple Collection in the British
Museum.'—M. Oppert, late one of the French
Commission for excavating in Babylonia, read a
translation he had made of the inscription on one
of the cylinders discovered by Sir H. Rawlinson in
the Birs-i-Nimrdd, in which he considers he has
discovered notices of the Deluge and of the Confusion of Tongues,—and therefore determines that
this monument actually occupies the site of the rusion of Tongues,—and therefore determines that this monument actually occupies the site of the Tower of Babel. M. Oppert also laid before the Society some very excellent maps he has prepared on the spot, in illustration of the topography of Babylon, which the French Government are about

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—March BRITISH ARCHAGOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—In arch 25.—T. J. Pettigrew, V.P., in the chair.—The Hon. R. Temple and J. E. Richards, Esq. were elected Associates. C. P. Hodgson, Esq., Vice-Consul at Caen, was elected a Corresponding Member.—The Rev. Beale Poste exhibited various antiquities, consisting of implements, spear-heads, &c., belonging to the pre-metallic period of Britain, found in Kent; an Anglo-Saxon knife found at Barham Downs; a terra-cotta taper-stand for placing lights before pictures, dug up in Maidstone Church; a Persian sword, with inscription in Cufic characters inlaid in gold, of the date A.D. 1000; and an ancient intaglio, representing a rabbit issuing from a cornucopia, emblematic of fertility or fecundity.—Mr. Gunston exhibited two fine examples of the war axe in yellow bronze, found at Galway.—Mr. Curle laid upon the table a beheading-sword obtained from Ireland. It measures 2d feet in length, is sharp at both edges, and the hilt is decorated. It belongs to the close of the fifteenth century.—Mr. Corner exhibited some coins lately dug up in the New Kent Road (some coins lately dug up in the New Kent Road (some of these tradesmen's tokens); also some pottery, a Samian Patera with stamp of Aqvitani.—Mr. Forman exhibited the famous Gold Bulla bought by him at the late Mr. Rogers's sale, and Mr. Cuming read a short paper on the subject.—Mr. G.R. Wright exhibited a beautiful crayon drawing of a supposed portrait of James Lord Beauclerk, son of Charles the Second by Nell Gwynne.—Mr. Pettigrew gave an account of some excavations made at Caerwent, but remarked that the Venta Silurum still remained open for examination by antiquaries. -Mr. Syer Cuming read a curious paper descriptive of various articles of costume belonging to the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries, and exhibited some interesting examples.—Mr. W. H. Black made a report of his examination of the municipal deeds belonging to the Corporation of Wells.

ZOOLOGICAL. — March. 24. — Dr. Gray in the chair. — The Secretary read papers, 'On the Nidification of the Wax-wing, the Lapland Owl, and Tengmalin's Owl,' by J. Wolley, Jun., Esq., and 'On the Skull of a Species of Mecistops inhabiting the River Binuë, or Tsádda, in Central Africa,' by Dr. Baitis

Society of Aets.—April 1.—Earl of Shaftesbury in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Members: — Messrs. G. F. Burbridge, J. T. Leather, F. A. Magnay, W. G. Merrett, J. L. Marton, J. Watney, A. Worms, G. Worms, H. Worms, and J. Young.—The paper read was 'On the Trade, Habits, and Education of the Street Hawkers of London,' by the Rev. W. Rogers. Mr. Rogers stated that his attention had been particularly directed to the costermongers of London from the abundance of them

in his parish, in the City, which, he said, scarcely contained any respectable inhabitants. They are generally most ignorant; they have scarcely any knowledge of religion; and their filthy condition of itself would prevent them going to church, even if they were so inclined. He alluded to the attempt he had himself made to reform them, which had been attended with more success than might have been anticipated. Some of the hawkers were anxious that their children should be educated, which had been seen them to the schools which had been accordance and their children should be educated, and they are seen them the repose the mind feels at the supply of a want and the removal of a desire;—that all ornament is based on a geometrical construction;—in surface decoration, that all lines thould flow out from a central branch and contained the removal of a desire;—that all ornament is based on a geometrical construction;—in surface decoration, that all lines thould flow out from a central branch and root;—that natural objects should not be imitated, but conventionalized;—that colour is to be used to assist methods and the removal of a desire;—that all ornament is based on a geometrical construction;—in surface decoration, that all lines whould flow out from a central branch and root;—that natural objects should not be imitated, but conventionalized;—that colour is to be used to assist methods are the surface and the removal of a desire;—that all ornament is based on a geometrical construction;—in surface decoration, that all lines whould flow out from a central branch and root;—that natural objects should not be imitated, but conventionalized;—that colour is to be used to assist methods and the removal of a desire;—that all ornament is based on a geometrical construction;—in surface decoration, that all lines whould flow out from a central branch and construction;—in surface decoration, that all ornament is based on a geometrical construction;—in surface decoration, that all ornament is based on a geometrical constructio SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES .- March 26. - F. he had himself made to reform them, which had been attended with more success than might have been anticipated. Some of the hawkers were anxious that their children should be educated, and they sent them to the schools which had been established. The costermongers are, however, a peculiar class; and to induce them to attend the schools it was necessary to adopt the hours of schools, it was necessary to adapt the hours of attendance so as not to interfere with their trade. Mr. Rogers alluded to the drunken habits of costermongers as almost inevitable from the circumstances in which they are placed; and the gin-palaces, with their brilliant illumination and their cheerful-looking landlords and landladies, offered a temperature to extend the account. cheerful-looking landlords and landladies, offered a temptation too strong to be resisted by men and women who dwell in dismal rooms, and are incited to drink by exposure to cold. He thought it would be an important advantage if coffee-shops were fitted up with equal splendour and appearance of cheerfulness, and he recommended the establishment of such on philanthropic principles.

INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES.—March 30.—E. J. Farren, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. C. G. Laing was elected an Associate.—Mr. Sprague read a paper 'On certain Methods of dividing the Surplus in Life Assurance Companies, and on the Rates of Premium which should be required to render them

equitable."

Photographic.—March 5.—J. Percy, Esq., M.D., V.P., in the chair.—F. J. Bigg, J. Durham, W. Quin, and H. P. Robinson, Esqs., were elected Members.—Mr. Hardwich read a paper 'On the Manufacture of Collodion."—Mr. Shadbolt made some observations on Positive Printing, with details of a new Toning Process.—Mr. Hardwich exhibited a series of small Negatives, to illustrate the effect produced by using a bath made from fused nitrate of silver.—Prince Albert presented Positive Prints of anatomical subjects.—Mr. Long (of the firm of Messrs. Bland & Long, Fleet Street) exhibited specimens of Photographic Colours prepared from pure materials. pure materials.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Chemical, 8.—'On the Application of Sewage to Agriculture, by Mr. Campbell.

Entomological, 8.

Horricultural, 3.

Horricultural, 3.

Horricultural, 3.

Horricultural, 4.

Horricultural, 5.

#### PINE ARTS

The Grammar of Ornament. By Owen Jones. Illustrated by Examples from Various Styles of Ornament. One Hundred Folio Plates, drawn on Stone by F. Bedford, and printed in Colours by Day & Son. (Day & Sons.)

by Day & Son. (Day & Sons.)

'The Grammar of Ornament' is beautiful enough to be the horn-book of angels. From the blue marks on the skull of the bygone savage to all the designs treasured in the head of Mr. Owen Jones himself—still well and hearty—we have records in this volume. Egyptian, Assyrian, Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Arabian, Persian, Hindoo, Chinese, Celtic, Italian:—he extracts glories from them all, and ends by original designs, based on the severest truth of nature. The wild bramble leaf, the chestnut's fan, the honeysuckle's ringlets, all teach us to invent, to re-arrange, and not to copy. Mr. Owen Jones wishes to be the lawgiver of ornamental Art,—and we see no reason why he should not be. If the fiercest perseverance, life-long industry, and intense enthusiasm are life-long industry, and intense enthusiasm are worth anything, they will be recognized in his works. His chief canons are these:—that true

quantities, balanced by larger masses of the secondary and tertiary.

Begioning his grand survey with the savage tribes, Mr. Jones shows that in the tatooings of a New Zealander's head preserved in the Chester Museum all the principles of the highest Art are to be found,—for Art, like love and the religious principle, are inherent in human nature. South Sea plaited straws, chequered cloths, heads of war-clubs, and canoes, are all ornamented in true taste, and according to the highest laws. Yet these designs are mere repetitions of triangular and lozenge-shaped stamps, producing a rich and lozenge shaped stamps, producing a rich effect by combinations of the simplest forms. Their blacks and whites, their chocolate reds and Their blacks and whites, their chocolate reds and yellows, netted patterns, spotted, crossed, and zig-zagged, are really patterns for Regent Street. Their hatchets and clubs are indented with the richest frettings and diamonded incisions. Their war-axes are ribbed and vandyked in the boldest and most massive designs, — the results of a patience equal to that of the Mediæval ivory-

and most insave designs,—the results of a patience equal to that of the Mediseval ivory-carver.

From the savage tribes of Otaheite and the Feejee Islands, regions of roast pig and yams, we pass to the lotus land—Egypt. Lotus leaves and papyri stems, hawk feathers and palm branches,—all of national growth and national use,—were the bases on which were founded all Egyptian conventions. Their pillars were papyri plants bound together,—the base, the root; the shaft, the stalk; the capital, the full-blown flower. From this lotus type of capital, by introducing circles, they obtained endless variety of forms. No nation used colour with such unsparing hand as the yellow men of the Nile. They would not have the miserable, unholy negation of colour—the stapid, unnatural vacuum—that we English rejoice in. Our black railings, buff walls, and green doors would have reminded them only of tombs. Their colours were chiefly red, blue, yellow, with black and white to mass out and give strength. The predominance of the primitive colours is the peculiarity of the early Art of all nations. The green bands, red and black feathers, the red-fire suns, and the deep blues that mark the presence of Osiris,—the vermilion bells of their capitals and the red and blue striped pillars,—are the decorations that the eyes of the Pharaohs rested on. From Egypt to Assyria is but a step in Art. In both nations we find the same daring use of barbaric masses of primitive colour and the same broad and simple effects.

Mr. Jones does not think much of Assyrian ornament; he considers it too imitative, and supposes it to be Egyptian art approaching decline.

Mr. Jones does not think much of Assyrian ornament; he considers it too imitative, and supposes it to be Egyptian art approaching decline. The pine-apple and the lotus were nearly all the ornamental types they used. Their reliefs are in the nature of diagrams. From some Sassanian capitals, Byzantine in outline, Mr. Jones traces all the splendid world of diaper ornament which afterwards adorned the domes of Cairo and the walls of the Alhambra. Stars and bosses, crosses of pine-cones, fans, and battlements, form the chief varieties of Assyrian ornament; yellow stars on blue grounds, blue turrets on yellow grounds, intwining cables of blue and yellow, are the sources from which these robust workers obtained a thousand designs of conflicting beauty.

from which these robust workers obtained a thousand designs of conflicting beauty.

Greek art, Mr. Jones asserts, was not derived from natural inspiration, like that of Egypt, but was the development of an old idea in a new direction. It shows almost a universality of pure taste, and a high and cultivated knowledge of the laws of form. Moreover, and above all, it was progressive, and therefore went on, while Egyptian are transmitted conceptation defensive and the statement of the second statement of the s progressive, and therefore went on, while Egyptian art remained conservative, defensive, and stationary. Greek art, however cultivating the beautiful, lost the symbolisms which vitalizes the vast masses of Nile work. It was purely decorative, never representative, and seldom constructive. The Parthenon frieze, Mr. Jones says, the Greeks placed so far up that it turned to a mere diagram. There was a poverty about their representative ornaments; there are only the wave and fret, a few conventional trees, a cipher of the honeysuckle, and the beautiful but everlasting acanthus. About coloured ornament Mr. Jones has some sensible remarks. He thinks all their white marble temples were covered with colour thick as twelfthcakes. The colours are very uncertain,—one antiquary sees green where another finds blue. There is really nothing clear about it at all, and Mr. Jones's illustrations are in this instance almost hypothetical. From the Greek knotted rope ornament came the Moresque interlacing, and the Greek fret corresponds with that of the Moors, Chinese, and even the Mexicans.

That beautiful fairy world of upholsterers and upholders, Pompeii, is well ransacked by Mr. Jones, the indefatigable encyclopedist of decorative Art. The commonest combination is a black door, with red pilasters, and yellow, blue, or white pannels. The Pompeian yellow is almost orange, and the red is generally almost purple. The neutrality of colour enables the tints to be juxtaposed without discord. Mr. Jones well hints the peculiar charm of the playful, capricious ornamentation of the little town Vesuvius had a spite to. The artists invented as they drew, and their execution was light, sketchy, free, and individualized. The mosaic became the source of Eastern design.

On Roman work, as what Cromwell would have called "self-seeking," tumid, and super-florid, Mr. Jones is severe enough. The Romans piled on their architecture heaps of dead acanthus leaves, imitating closer than the Greek their general outline, but exaggerating their surface decoration. There was no fresh growth in ornamental art till the leaf over leaf was abandoned, and a continuous stem was introduced, as a base for episodes of leafage.

If Byzantine and Romanesque work was the result of the combination of Oriental and European workmen, perhaps the true Art-philosopher should prove it to be the mere effect of Mohammedanism reform and Western Christian zeal. It depends on sculpture for its strong effects. It delights in broad-toothed and acutely-pointed leaves, deepchannelled, and drilled at the springings.

Arabian ornament is, as we might have suspected, a strong point with Mr. Jones, who has only just doffed his turban. Arabian art is traceable to the demands of the new civilization and wider culture that Mohammedanism introduced. The Mosque of Toloon in Cairo, erected only 250 years from the establishment of Islamism, shows a style of architecture complete in itself, and betraying no signs of direct imitation of the Byzantine. In the distribution of masses, and ornamenting the surfaces of ornaments, the Arabs never equalled the Moors. They were more monotonous, and left gaps, from mere want of invention, or, perhaps, from a greater rudeness and simplicity of taste. The twisted cord, the interlacing lines, the crossing of two squares, are the stock sources of Arab design. On Turkish works Mr. Jones is severe. The

On Turkish works Mr. Jones is severe. The Turks are conquerors, with adopted manners and adopted religion. Their design is leafy, straggling, and coarse. The Persians, beside them, seem poetical flower-gatherers, and the Moors female mathematicians. They are fond of coarse green and black. "They abused," as Mr. Jones says, "with enthusiastic violence, the re-entering curve. They carved the surface of their ornaments, while the more imaginative Arabs used a simple and rude feathering."

Moresque work Mr. Jones places highest of all, and, reluctantly leaving the Alhambra, passes on to the playful fancy and exquisite tulip colours of the Persian Manuscripts. The Indian and Burmese masses of ornament are compared with the Chinese; and with the Celtic divisions of the work we enter Europe. The strange Runic knots and strap-and-leather work receive a careful consideration, and in the Medieval compartment we come to the Missals and their strange enchanted world of fairy trees and birds and jewelled lacework and labyrinths. In the Renaissance we come to Raphael's modifications and dilutions of the old Roman strength and overloaded luxury. In the Elizabethan we

have the linen-work, the dull pannel-work and rapid geometries; and end with the Italian, and some specimens from nature, flattened out and curtailed for ornamental purposes.

We only fear so costly a work will rather deter than invite the general purchaser,-too expensive for the artist, too luxurious for the manufacturer, it is too technical for the Art-amateur, and too princely for the mere artistic family. We only princely for the mere artistic family. hope that it will be soon found a necessary classic for all schools of Art and for all amateur students of Art and Architecture. The book is bright enough to serve a London family in summer instead of flowers, and to warm a London room in winter as well as a fire. It would stimulate the imaginations of all Art-designers who could be humble enough to admire and generous enough not to copy. It is an Encyclopædia of one branch of Art, and is a noble example of typographical skill and taste, and of the steel-like energy and elasticity of the author's mind. It contains the result of a life's study, aided by pupils, friends, and workmen. Years ago Government alone would have ventured on such a publication, - now it is the mere leisure-hour work of a clever and enterprising mind. Mr. Jones must continue in this branch of Art, and publish more Domdaniel primers like this, so as to deserve still more the thanks of the increasing Art-public.

Albrecht Dürer Museum. Engraved from the Original Woodcuts under the Superintendence of W. von Kaulbach, of Munich, and Kreling, of Nuremberg. (Williams & Norgate.)

This valuable work is intended to contain a republication of some of Dürer's rarest and most precious works. The first number contains three studies—
'The Holy Family, with St. Anna and St. Joschim,'—'The Flight into Egypt,'—'St. Stephen, St. Gregory, and St. Laurence.'

These three woodcuts are excellent examples of the old Nuremberg worker's simplicity, piety, and earnestness of purpose,—let us add, of his heavy coarseness, of his ruggedness and want of refinement. 'The Holy Family' is full of eccentric mannerisms, and is as German as it can well be. Joseph looks like a Rhenish elector, and carries a muff, St. Joachim carries a note-book at his girdle such as the mass priests used to do; and not to speak of his being at least fourteen feet high, he swings a tasselled rosary in his hand. The Virgin is a German baroness, and St. Anna wears a palpable hood. Then what redeems the Old-World thing? say our readers. Why just this. That it is instinct and vitalized by honest, pure, domestic love, and is full of a father's recollections—those recollections that bring the light up in one's eye, and perhaps a tear with it, and make the day in which they arose a saint's day of the heart. child leaps and crows just as children do; the mother eyes it with the pride of a real mother; the old gossip receives it with the unpractised flattering wonder of all gossips; the father eyes it with approving chuckle and with thoughtful pleasure; while old Joachim watches the scene as if thinking

what a happy thing it must be to be a father.

'The Flight into Egypt,'—This is German too, though more Oriental than the first. The group might be pilgrims going to the Lady's Chapel at Einsiedeln above Zurich,—the holy chapel where the ravens discovered the murderer of the hermit, and followed the red-handed man into the market-place by the green lake. Joseph has the pouch and bag of tools, just those that the boors in Erasmus's stories have,—and the Virgin wears her hat slung by a string behind her back, just as the wanderers to Cologne shrines were wont to have. Still there is the palm-tree in great force on a road quite German, with its paled inclosures, and its neat, arched watercourse and elaborate thistles. The simple, good-hearted force of the treatment lies in Joseph's shambling run, which implies haste, and in the ox which he drags by the same cord to which the ass is tied. The lizard, birds, plants, and pebbles show rather traces of the Pre-Raphelite pedantry of observation.

Pre-Raphaelite pedantry of observation.

The third woodcut is remarkable for the preternatural ugliness of the centre Saint. St. Laurence, with the enormous gridiron, would seem typical of

the frequent broils the Roman Church has got into.
St. Stephen, holding a swishing palm branch, holds his head on one side, and gives ugly Gregory one of those sanctified ogles peculiar to Saints in sacred pictures. A very unpleasant, geometrical look is given to the design by the three doorways in the background. All Dürer's designs require to be received, as the Romans used to say, "with much salt."

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—Three elections are about to take place at the Academy. Mr. Elmore's promotion left an Associate's chair vacant. Mr. Cook's death leaves an Academician's honours to one of the nineteen Associates. The Academicians therefore have to elect one R.A. and two A.R.A.s. We trust to see them exercise their powers like gentlemen conscious of their responsibility; letting in new blood from the outside, apart from old pretensions and the influences of clique. Reforms can only come from new men. By the new law, the Academicians may proceed at the end of three months from the death of Mr. Cook to elect his successor; and if, as we are told, it is necessary this time to bring in a sculptor, Mr. Foley's friends may expect to see his labours crowned with the full honours of the institution.

Artists have been busy the last two days in gathering from the criticisms of friends a foretaste of what is in store for them next month. From what we hear, the prospects of the season are not very bright, Manchester presenting attractions which are drawing away some of the more conspicuous names. Sir Edwin Landseer, for example, sends his large picture to Manchester, and will be represented only by a small work of no importance. Mr. Ward sends nothing. Mr. Frith, as far as we hear, will be absent from the walls.

A rumour is abroad on the wing of the Times that another Paul Veronese has been purchased in Venice for 14,000l. The picture is said to be one of the Pisani pictures; but as there are more than one Pisani Palace, and more than one Pisani Paul Veronese, we know not which work of the master is referred to. But in any case the price stated must be an exaggeration.

The following speaks for itself:-

"Niton, Isle of Wight.
"In your notice of my picture of 'Early Spring'
now in the Suffolk Street Exhibition, you question the accuracy of representing the hen robin with a red breast. I am aware that with most of our songsters the plumage of the male bird differs from that of the female and is much brighter; but, with the robin the case is different. In confirmation of this opinion, I give the following extract from the article 'Redbreast' in Montague's Ornithological Dictionary, edited by James Rennie; for which I am indebted to the good nature of an unknown friend, who signs his letter 'Verax.'—'The plumage of both sexes is alike; the nestling feathers of the young birds are spotted, and they do not possess the red on the breast for two or three months after they leave the nest.' In summer and autumn I have frequently seen the spotted birds referred to; but in the winter and early spring months I have never seen any bird which I could suppose to be a robin, whose breast was not more or less red. As I am particularly desirous to avoid the imputation of carelessness, I beg that you will be so kind as to

risert this letter.—I am, &c. W. J. Webbe."

Prof. Wolff, at Rome, has finished his colossal marble bust of Winckelmann, commenced some years ago by order of King Lewis, of Bavaria, who intends to make it an ornament of the Villa Albani. It has partly been executed after the well-known portrait of Winckelmann, by Raphael Mengs, in the Protomothek on the Capitol.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—Handel's MESSIAH will be performed (not in the Subscription) on THURBDAY, April 9, under the direction of Mr. John Hullah. Principal Vocalists: Miss Banks, Miss Marian Moss, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Thomas. Tickets, is and 2z ed.; Stalls, 5z. Commence at Eight.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—Handel's AUIS and GALATEA, and Martin's HAST. WALLUZ MAST. NIGHT. WEDNESHAY Mendelssohn's HAST. WALLUZ MAST. NIGHT. WEDNESHAY Vocalists. Miss Palmer, Mr. Sims Revers, Mr. Montem Smith, and Mr. Thomas.—Tickets, 12.; Galleries, 22. 62. Stalls, 52. Commence at Eight c'elock.

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SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter Hall.—Conductor, Mr. OSTA.—WEDNESDAY NEXT. April 8, the usual Passiou (New York) and WESSIAH. Vocalists: Madame Glara Nowlio, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Weiss; Trumpet, Mr. Harper.—Tikekts, 8s. 8s. and 10s. 6d., at 6, Exeter Hall. Post Office Orders to be payable to Robert Bowley, at the Charing Cross Office.

The BROUSIL FAMILY respectfully announce that their FOURTH and LAST SOIREE MUSICALE will take place at their own residence, 28, Nottingham-place, New-road, on THURB-DAY NEXT, April 9, to commence at half-past Eight o'clock—Subscription Tickets, One Guinea; Single Tickets, Half-a Guinea each, at Robert W. Ollivier's, Musicseller and Publisher, 19, Old Bond-street, Piccadilly.

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Moonlight Rambles. Nos. 1 to 4. By Ignaz Tedesco. Op. 86. (Scheurmann & Co.)—We prefer the four movements before us to such of Herr Tedesco's music as we know. If not fresh in idea they are distinct in character, and the original designs are nicely completed. Nos. 2 and 4, fancifully entitled 'Bubbling Brook' and 'Gondolier's Nocturne,' will be found the two best. Apart from the elegance of its form and phrase, the latter is commendable as a study of accent and rhythm for the left hand.

Without descanting on the varieties of the Waltz even as incompletely as we did those of the March not long since, we may call attention to their range as considerable,—a text being furnished by the Twelve Classical Waltzes, arranged in Two Books, by Charles Engel. (Scheurmann & Co.)-Some day or other we may enumerate smart, stately, piquant, wild, voluptuous, sentimental, smooth, and spas-modic specimens of the waltz in proof of what we have said. On this occasion, however, we shall limit ourselves to a word or two concerning a single one of the twelve collected by Herr Engel, and these will be words of personal criticism. The musical readers of the Athenœum may not have forgotten the name of Herr Böhner, for whom one of Weber's most charming melodies has been claimed, and the interesting communication which we received, describing him as one of those irregular and neg-lected geniuses who furnish the fancies by which more adroit and worldly folk profit. Bearing these things in mind, No. 10 of Herr Engel's collection by him is curious,—of itself a poor waltz, but ec-centric, inasmuch as the first part consists of ten bars, the last four of which are a literal transcript of a delicious phrase from the terzett of genii,
'Gia fan ritorno,' in 'Il Flauto Magico.' We
cannot fancy that though Mozart may have taken the leading phrase of the overture to his opera from Clementi's lately unearthed Sonata, he derived the idea of the piece of fantasy referred to from Herr Böhner's waltz. The identity is curious enough to be noted by the hunters for musical coincidences.

Elementary Practice for the Vocal Student. By Charles Bloxsome. (For the Author.)—The preface contains the usual criticisms on former treatises, by way of excusing the publication of another. One or two of the exercises are ingenious,—as for instance, that on the chromatic scale, (pp. 40-1); but one good page, or half a dozen good pages, hardly justify publication; and we cannot help thinking, for the thousandth time, of the sheet of exercises noted down by Porpora, which made him who studied them the finest singer of his time. Surely, we once again suggest, it would cost the pupil little trouble to write out the same exercise for himself in different keys,—thus not only saving his money, in the purchase of what is merely the same thing over again, but habituating him to transposition.

him to transposition.

It is rarely that we have to announce a publication from an English musical press at once so important and so excellent a specimen of typography as the full score of Signor Costa's 'Eli,' which has been just put forth by Messrs. Addison & Co. The Oratorio has taken its place among the worthiest works of modern time, and its publication in this complete form is a sagacious measure, as placing it at the service of those studying instrumentation. Signor Costa's treatment of his orchestra is neither French nor German,—but of the best Italian quality, entiting him to claim kindred with Cherubini, Spontini, and the composer of 'Guillaume Tell,'—in whose manner, apart from all science, there may be traced that nationality of taste and humour which gives to a man his reality

and to an artist his individuality. The closer that 'Eli' is examined, the more will the conscience and skill of its writer, in point of orchestral effect, be apparent.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—Handel's 'Israel,'
—Some weeks ago [Athen. No. 1517] an outline was
offered of some features which distinguish 'Israel' offered of some features which distinguish 'Israel' among Handel's Oratorios. Attention was called to the inartificial way in which that work seems to have been completed less on plan than to have grown together by accident, and to the inspiration with which Handel proved himself equal to the expression of variety in the midst of monotony, and to cementing incoherent parts into a stupenday and the Thick with the structure of the complete of t dous whole. Taken without minute examination, the Oratorio is, indeed, "an amazement," whether for poetical or practical musicians. If it be looked into historically, the amount of suggestion and matter for inquiry disclosed is inexhaustible. That which Shakspeare's 'Hamlet' furnishes to dramatic commentators, Handel's 'Israel' supplies to musicians—mystery in proportion to marvel.

Of this we have been reminded by the foot-notes to
the text put forth by Mr. G. A. Macfarren on the last Sacred Harmonic Society's performance of the Oratorio. We will not weigh the opinions and preferences expressed in them, nor point out where we part company from the writer's interpretations of Handel's meaning in this or the other movement. In such gigantic works there are different treasures for every student,—leaving something to be har-vested by the coming generation which past and present gleaners have overlooked. But the examination of facts can never be unprofitably undertaken. The nearer to truth we arrive the higher becomes ad-miration, as distinguished from wonderment; and it is our impression that the truth is only imperfettly known as regards 'Israel.' The question of the authorship of the fugue 'Egypt was glad,' literally printed as a complete instrumental move-ment by Kerl in Hawkins's 'History of Music,' has never been set at rest. Since it was raised a MS.
'Magnificat,' del Rd. Signor Erba, has come into
the possession of the Sacred Harmonic Society,—
in which are found themes and movements identical in which are found themes and movements identical with other crude and scholastic movements contained in 'Israel.' Mr. Macfarren assumes "the superscription to signify that the copy has belonged to a Signor Erba," unaware, perhaps, that an Italian composer of that name was living at Rome towards the year 1730. He is further re-assured as to the paternity of the movements in question. towards the year 1/30. He is further re-assured as to the paternity of the movements in question, because in the Smith copy of the Oratorio, lately secured by M. Schoelcher, they are "superscribed in pencil" (by Handel?) "Mag.," "from which," Mr. Macfarren continues, "it may be inferred that at some early period these pieces were identified."
Identified by whom?—and with what?—with Erba?
or with Handel? Less conclusive evidence or impression (for evidence here is none) could not be. Does Mr. Macfarren forget that a like superscrip-tion of "Piff." above the 'Pastoral Symphony' in 'The Messiah,' restores the subject of that delicious movement to its origin,—that Christmas melody of Roman Pifferari, which had been noted in English collections of national airs long ere Handel wrote? In truth, we suspect that the Giant was so rich as to feel himself entitled to steal from this side and from the other. That, by way of economizing time and labour, he used his privilege in the numbers of 'Israel' referred to we think possible, from ob-serving the entire difference of style which exists between them and the other portions of the Oratorio. They have all a crabbed and antique formality, which (to avail ourselves of a friend's judicious which (to avail ourselves of a friend's judicious remark) was anything but the taste of the time and the place in which Handel wrote. Even when he built the stately song 'Thou didst blow' on a ground bass, he managed so to disguise the mechanical basis of his song as to give it an air of unfettered declamatory brawwa. Nor has romance (as Mr. Macfarren justly observes) ever gone further in music than in the 'Plague of Darkness,' as desirted by Handel or then in the whole last

question,—which are in minor keys, let the words be ever so jubilant, and resemble choral exercises on given tones, to which new text has been subsequently mated. "Gladness and exaltation," are not elsewhere expressed by Handel with such severity, not to say grimness, as is here to be observed. The question, at all events, furnishes a capital field of work, inquiry, and comparison to musical antiquaries. We are satisfied that no investigation, however keen or close, will strip from the wings of the Shakspeare of music a single feather. The more he is searched the more will the superiority of Handel when creating to Handel when promying reveal itself.

when borrowing reveal itself.

The Sacred Harmonic Society's performance of 'Israel' yesterday week was, as regards orchestra and chorus, a gratifying foretaste of what may be expected at the Crystal Palace. The solos were well sustained by Mrs. Weiss, Miss Banks (who promises well as a soprano), Miss Dolby, Mr. Montem Smith (almost the best second tenor in our recollection, and who speaks his music with refinement and intelligence), Signor Belletti, and Mr. Thomas. 'The Lord is a man of war' was sung capitally by the two gentlemen, and led by the Italian basso with a mastery and a majesty which no amount of praise could over-praise. It was Handel in perfection, and the enthusiastic encore of the audience did no more than justice to the most complete specimen of bass singing in English sacred music which we have enjoyed.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK .- The Saturday Concerts at the Crystal Palace appear to thrive. What certs at the Crystal Rance appear to thrive. What is more curious still (the excuses of more aristocratic entertainers considered) they thrive, in spite of the enterprise of their promoters—since the makers of the programmes absolutely adventure novelties, to the production of which the older musical societies of Tradesports. of London appear unequal. As an instance, this day week, we heard there Herr Gade's Symphony in c, which did not terrify the public from the music-room, neither empty it of its audience when collected there,—a work which all musicians of every school must have heard with curiosity, and may wish to hear again with satisfaction, though they may not cry "Eureka!" over Herr Gade as a new Beethoven or Mendelssohn. In point of musical style, we do not rate Herr Gade as high as M. Gounod or as M. Heller; but he has originality of humour and sufficient respect for his art not to wander wild, nor to outrage knowledge of and love for what is past by offering distinction as innovation. Thus we rank Herr Gade far higher, for his freshness, than Schumann,—and, for his science, than Herr Wagner. He has additional to the science of the science o —and, for his science, than Herr wagner. He has
melodic inspirations, which, though vague, are not
chaotic; and these have suggested peculiarities of
scoring. His use of the stringed instruments with
mutes is as distinctive as M. Meyerbeer's employment of the orchestral tremolando in accompaniment. He is too fond of short phrases; his primal fancies are more wildly national in character than most that have been pressed into the service of trained art:—thus, to a certain degree, he reminds us of the uneducated poet writing correct minus us of the uneducated poet writing correct poetry,—not equalling in his range the educated ministrel, yet still a poet. This Symphony, to sum up, is a genuine interesting work, good repayment of the labour of those who went out to seek for it at Sydenham. While we fancy that Herr Gade's music must pall if heard too often or in too large quantities, we are satisfied that, from time to time, a specimen of it would be as welcome as the scent of furze and heather is to the most fanatical scent of furze and heather is to the most fanatical cultivator of orchidaceous plants, who, while he relishes greenhouses and parterres, can also rejoice in the September breath of the blossoms of the moorland.—The small band at the Crystal Palace m the September breath of the biossoms of the moorland.—The small band at the Crystal Palace performed the Symphony very well, to the credit of Herr Manns, its conductor.

Some year and a half ago [Athen. No. 1453], we spoke of the Second Pianoforte Trio by M. E.

fettered declamatory bravura. Nor has romane (as Mr. Macfarren justly observes) ever gone further in music than in the 'Plague of Darkness,' as depicted by Handel, or than in the whole last scene with Miriam and the chorus. Matter for suspicion is also to be found in a want of correspondence between the words and character of thusic in many of the numbers which are open to

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more effective than we had expected; the scherzo has charm as well as motion. In the presto finale has charm as well as motion. In the presto finale the composer's inspiration has deserted him; the subjects are inferior to those of the other three movements, -in the andante there is something too much of torture in avoidance of monotony. Besides this, Herr Ernst led his favourite Mendelssohn Quartett, the one in E miner, with that fire and passionate expression, the secret of which remains with himself.—The Vocal Union, too, gave great pleasure in Mr. Horsley's delicious glee, 'By Celia's arbour' (one of those classics of vocal music which will never become antiquated), and other compositions.

On Tuesday evening a private performance of the new singing society, conducted by Mr. Bene-dict, took place,—on Wednesday the first of Dr. Wylde's three concerts, which he will deck out and dignify with the title of "New Philharmonic

Society," was held.
On Thursday, Miss Poole gave what it seems the fashion to call her "Grand Concert,"—the gran-deur being in the length of the programme and the numbers of the performers, not the scale of the music produced. "Grandeur" without orchestra or chorus is only intelligible under conditions which have no existence on such an occasion.

OLYMPIC .- A new translation has been made of MM. Bayard and Dupont's 'Fille de l'Avare, for Mr. Robson. The work has been done by Mr. Palgrave Simpson, and fully answers the purpose intended. That purpose was to elevate the actor in public estimation, by showing that the tragic element in him was not only an adjunct of his burlesque style, but the substance of his general acting, and sufficient in power and quality to justify the artist in aiming at pure tragic expression. The experiment has been in an instance satisfactory; and Mr. Robson has thereby been enabled to lay a foundation for tragic performances enabled to lay a foundation and the most serious crision. The experiment has been in all respects tical attention.—The title of the present adaptation is 'Daddy Hardacre,' and the scene and man-ners are thoroughly Anglicized: The first intima-tions of the Miser's character are given by Mr. Robson in that minute style of histrionic painting in which he is known to excel. But when the passion sets in, a broad style of art is required,and even a height of emotion, well calculated to task the powers of the greatest tragedian. Love for his daughter and for his gold, equal in potency, begets an antagonism ever present in the performance; but when the child of his heart has robbed him of his equally dear money, a conflict arises which destroys the previously maintained balance, and sinks the parent in the miser. That he could kill her on the instant is evident,—that the loss of his gold may kill him is only too probable; and the spectator becomes anxious for the point that should reconcile the fearful difference. All this, however, is not developed by the actor's physical power, but by his nervous excitement. His entire frame is one gesture ;- not a limb but is alive with expression, and an electric influence is felt at every mo-This unquestionable manifestation of tragic power in the artist will, we trust, lead to an improvement in regard to the quality of the pieces in which he will hereafter appear.

ADELPHI .- A domestic sketch-a mere trifle in itself, but capitally acted—was produced on Mon-day, under the title of 'Welcome, little Stranger.' Mr. Wright enacts the part of a newly-married man, living in lodgings, and put to inconvenience by the birth of his first child. This he exaggerates in his usual manner; while Mrs. Chatterley, as his mother-in-law, manifests all the importance and fidgetty interference that distinguish her class on such interesting occasions. The little piece was

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP .- Mr. Gye's programme for the Royal Italian Opera season has appeared, and is all the more welcome for its abstinence from protestation and epithet. Simply stating that Drury Lane was not to be obtained, and that it is hoped that a new theatre will be ready

by this time next year, he announces the company about to appear at the Lyceum, which is the same as last year, with one or two changes. Signor La-blache will return,—Madame Jenny Ney not. Two new soprani—Mdlle. Parepa and Mdlle. Victoire Balfe—are promised; and among operas to beadded to the repertory, 'La Traviata,' 'Il Giuramento,' 'Fra Diavolo,' 'Zampa,'—with revivals of 'Il Matrimonio' and 'Le Nozze.' The ballet will be headed by Madame Cerito, Mdlle. Plunkett, and M. Desplaces:—the subscription extends to forty nights. Fifteen performances by Madame Ristori are announced to take place—beginning in June.

The preparations for the Handel Festival, in

the Sydenham Palace, have already taken the form of a prodigious erection for the orchestra,-the central gap in which will presently be filled by the organ about to be set up there. Before the area allotted to the public is laid out in seats, let us offer to the Directors a suggestion in the interests of music. Vast as the gathering will be, both of priests and of people, it becomes a first necessity, that if the performance is to be properly relished,—and not merely in its solo, but also in its concerted portions, such result can be insured only by quietness on the part of the audience. Quietness among the thousands who may congregate, will largely depend on comfort,—on the room given to each sitter,—and on the readiness of access to every seat. Anything like imprisonment or coercion on the summer days when the Oratorios are to take place,-anything that breeds antagonism, restlessness, or nervous excitement,—will be fatal to the Festival,—let the chorus be ever so sonorous, the band ever so mag-nificent, or the solo singers ever so audible. The "celebrity" (to use Burney's word) ought to be the most pompous thing, and the most perfect in its grandeur, which England has ever seen; and the pomp and the perfection will be best secured by the most solicitous preparation for the composure of the public.

Among other penitential diversions appointed for next week is Mr. H. Russell's entertainment at the Princess's Theatre, and a lecture, with songs, on 'Mary Queen of Scots,' undertaken by Mr. Linley 'Mary Queen of Scots,' undertaken by Bir. Linkey at the Gallery of Illustration.—On Easter Monday a very strange piece of rejoicing may be looked for. What, in the name of consistency, are the reprinters of Exeter Hall about? We are amused to see selections from one opera announced as about to be given there during a so-called Verdi evening, which opera is 'La Traviata.' Seeing that they think proper to interfere with the words of the Hymns of the Latin Church when performed in the Strand for musical, not devotional, purposes, we submit to them whether they ought not to marry 'La Traviata' (in the book of the words) before the song of her folly and the sound of her

coughing begins!

Something like a rain of new public rooms seems impending in London at the time present. contemporary apprises us that the National Hall, in Holborn, is about to be altered and re-arranged, so as to form a concert-room capable of receiving

an audience of four thousand persons.

The annual dinner of the Royal Society of Musicians took place last week. The guests numbered one hundred and fifty: there was a good collec-

Is a change coming over the spirit of tenor singers? who have been generically accused of singing, looking delightful with all their might, and doing little besides. In France there has, of late years, been a tradition in favour of something better than such mere far-niente captivation. Nour-rit, we know, was a man full of chivalrous enthusiasm and intelligence. M. Duprez, as was lately noted, has been able to find himself plenty of work of the best kind to do since his memorable 'Suivezmoi!' has, of necessity, come to an end. And now, we perceive that M. Roger has been performing the ungrateful task of adapting French text to Haydn's 'Seasons,' which Cantata was performed entire at the last concert of the Conservatoire,the journals state with entire success.

The French journals are beginning to call attention to a composer-poet and poet composer, M. de Vaucorbeil,—who is said to be a real artist, though an amateur. Some of his songs are de-

scribed, and by conflicting critics, as of a high

order of excellence.

The Morning Post announces the success at Naples of yet another comic opera, 'La Marchesa ed il Tamburino,' by Signor Barbate. We should be glad to believe that any new merry Italian music had strength enough to abide the passage of the Alps,—having had a surfeit of sentimentalities and horrors on the Italian stage for some years past. Since 'Don Pasquale' came, opera buffa has disappeared, so far as Paris and London are concerned.—The Gazette Musicale states that Signor Braga, the clever Italian violoncellist, has just finished an Italian opera, entitled 'Estella,' which is forthwith to be produced at Vienna.

A Correspondent, "Vigilans"—who has ad-

dressed us in reply to our remarks on the English words to M. Meyerbeer's Barcarolle, reviewed ante, p. 412,-has misapprehended the gist of our obp. 412,—nas misapprenenced the gist of our objection. This did not, as he apparently fancies, touch "longs" and "shorts," but accent, which in singing is not a matter of duration only, but one, too, of force. Thus, we repeat that

ne | zef f-ro, in which the syllable "f" is unimportant to the musical phrase, is better represented by re | mēm....ber

than by

while | ze-phyrs play;

since, if the last two syllables are to be pronounced completely, the phrase, which in the original dies gently on the vowel, assumes a new form, owing to the quantity of stiff consonants which have to be heard. For the same reason, "earth-ly brides" is objectionable as a substitute for "pelago." mechanical, and not musical, method of proceeding which has made "Vigilans" assume our criticism incorrect, makes, as we said, so very large a portion of the English text to foreign music destructive of effect and character in the original composition. —Since we are recalled to the paragraph, let us correct a slip of punctuation, which has found its way into print. "Nevertheless" should open the way into print. "Nevertheless" should open the sentence following the one which at present it apparently closes.

We perceive among the deaths of the past week that of Mr. Leffler, the well-known bass singer, who, for many years, was an established member of every English opera company that could be collected,—and who originally possessed voice and natural capability beyond the common average.

#### MISCELLANEA

Eating Buns on Good Friday .- In the Museo Lapidario of the Vatican, on the Christian side of and not far from the door leading into the library, there is a tablet representing in a rude manner the miracle of the five barley-loaves. Every visitor must have seen it, for it has been there for years. The loaves are round like cakes, and have a cross upon them, such as our buns bear which are broken and eaten on Good-Friday moraing, symbolical of the sacrifice of the bouy of our Five of these cakes, explanatory of the scene, are ranged beneath an arch-shaped table, at which recline five persons, while another, with a basket full, is occupied in serving them. The cakes are so significant of the Bread of Life, that one might almost regard the repast as intended to prefigure the sacrifice that was to follow, and the institution connected with it. Having from the earliest period of memory cherished a particular regard for hot cross-buns, and all their pleasing associations, it was a source of gratifying reflection to see my old favourites thus brought into intimate association with the pious thoughts of the primitive Christians, and to know that at home we cherished an ancient usage on Good Friday, which the more Catholic nations of Europe no longer observed. But alas! there is always some drawback to our full satisfaction in this world, -it is, probably, as well that there should be, -and knowledge is often a cruel dissipator of favourite convictions :- my faith in the Christian biography of these buns has recently received a very rude shock. It would appear that they have descended to us, not from any Popish practice, as some pious souls affirm, 57

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but from one which was actually Pagan; and, like the word which we use to signify the great festival of the Church, Easter, to a paganism as ancient as the worship of Astarte,—in honour of whom, about the time of the Passover, our pagan ancestors, the Saxons, baked and offered up a particular kind of cake. We read in Jeremiah (vii. 18) of the Israelitish women kneading their dough to make cakes to the Queen of Heaven. Dr. Stukeley, in his 'Medallic History of Valerius Carausius,' remarks that they were "assiduous to knead the Easter cakes for her service." The worship of a Queen of Heaven under some significant name or other was an almost universal practice, and exists still the word which we use to signify the great festival of Heaven under some significant name or other was an almost universal practice, and exists still in various parts of the globe. She is usually represented, like the Madonna, bearing her son in her lap, or like Isis with the infant Horus. We may see such images in the Louvre, and in the great Ethnographical Museum at Copenhagen, where the Queen of Heaven of the Chinese, Tienter is particularly in the control of the control where the Queen of Heaven of the Chinese, Tienhow, figures in white porcelain, side by side with Schling-mu, the Holy Mother. Certain metaphysical ideas are apt to flow in a common channel, and get clothed in the same symbolical dress. Hence we find a Queen of Heaven no less in Mexico than in China, in Egypt, Greece, Italy, and England; and, under the pagan title of a Christian festival, preserve, along with our buns, the memorial of her ancient reign. The late Rev. George Stanley Faber, who could clearly see Noah's ark at the bottom of all sacred mysteries, and trace its worship in the crescent moon, says, that the its worship in the crescent moon, says, that the sacred cakes offered to her Celestial Majesty were called bous "from their being formed with two little horns, so as to imitate the mystic heifer, which was at once the symbol of Isis, the Earth, the ark, and the lunar creacent." They were made which was at once the symbol of Isis, the six, and the lunar crescent." They were made of honey kneaded with fine flour, and were set out before the idol on a table, alike in Mexico and in Egypt. Bous, continues Mr. Faber, "in one of its oblique cases, is boun, or (as the Latins would write it) bun. Hence we have borrowed our English word bun; and from the same pagan seurce has originated the old Popish custom, which we still retain; of selling a sort of consecrated cakes, named buns, on Good Friday." I well remember the pious horror once manifested by some worthy Presbyterian friends in Edinburgh on hearing that I ate hot cross-buns on Good Friday:—"Why," said they, "it is like eating meats offered unto idols." I little thought then that they were so near the truth; nor did they know it themselves: but the motive sanctifies the means, and the Christian practice is none the means, and the Christian practice is none the worse for having been originally pagan.—H. C. B. Charter House Library.—About nine years have

passed since a then new member of the Brothers of Charter House, astonished to find that there was not the slightest provision made by the authorities for the mental recreation of the aged members of that endowment, appealed to public liberality for assistance (by donations of books) to found a library of issue, to remedy so great a defect. The attempt was singularly successful. The collection at the present time numbers up-wards of two thousand volumes. Amongst the wards of two thousand volumes. Amongst the largest contributors, Her Majesty the Queen stands first; and the publishers and booksellers of London have nobly followed. "It would be invidious to particularize; but I may be permitted to say that Mr. H. G. Bohn, having liberally contributed in the early formation of the Library, has, within the last few days, added to it by the voluntary gift of fifty volumes; including some of the most of fifty volumes, including some of the most valuable of his standard publications. Such an act deserves a public record of thanks from the Poor Brothers of Charter House; and, as Mr. Bohn made me the channel of his liberality, I have thought it my duty to request your notice of it, in any way you think proper. R. T.

False English: Use of the Prefix Be.—Seeing quoted in a recent number of the Athenœum the following line by Mr. W. R. Alger:—

So I wet with fresh wine my belanguishing lips;

and trying in vain to find any reason for the inven-tion and use of the curious word belanguishing except the necessities of the metre, some old speculations respecting the prefix be, which had been

suggested to my mind when reading Coleridge's 'Biographia Literaria' many years ago, have been recalled to my memory. Will you allow me room to state what appears to me to be the real force of to state what appears to me to be the real force of this prefix? It is to enable a word to govern the objective case without the aid of a preposition. Some illustrations of this definition may be classi-fied under four heads:—1. Neuter verbs, by re-ceiving the prefix be, are enabled to govern an objective,—e. g., instead of saying to moan for a thing, we can use the more compact and emphatic form to bemoan a thing; instead of to wail for, to bewail; instead of to chance to, to beckance; instead of to fall to, to befall; instead of to fall to, to befall; instead of to seem (or, be seemly) for, to beseem; instead of to stride across, to seemly) for, to bessem; instead of to stride across, to bestride; and so also of beweep, behawl, belabour, bespew, bespit, betie, and others. 2. Active verbs, by receiving this prefix, are enabled most conveniently to change their direct objects, and consequently their whole construction,—e. g., instead of saying to smear oil upon a person, we change the construction into to besmear one with oil; to set snares around a person assumes the form, to beset snares around a person assumes the form, to beset one with snares; to reave a thing from a person becomes to bereave a person of a thing; to calm the elements aboard a ship, to becalm a ship; to drop a colour upon a surface, to bedrop the surface with a colour; to seek something from a person becomes to beseech a person; to spatter mud upon, to bespatter; to speak for a service, to bespeak it; to sprinkle water upon a place, to besprinkle (commonly, indeed, but less properly, to sprinkle) a place with water; and so on. 3. Nouns, by receiving the prefix he are charged at once into transitive the prefix be, are changed at once into transitive the prefix be, are changed at once into transitive verbs, without necessarily passing through the preliminary stage of serving, in their simple form, as neuter verbs,—e. g., to befriend, a convenient word for, to act as a friend to; to bedew, for, to let dew fall upon; to beguile, for, to use guile towards; and so likewise of beduse, bemire, besiege, and many more.

4. Several of our prepositions have in the same way been formed from adverbs, nouns, and other words: e. g., the clumsy expression, at the side of, becomes beside; on the fore side of, becomes before; on the nether side of, becomes behad; on the low side of, becomes below; on yon side of, becomes beyond; on the side below; on yon side of, becomes below; on you side of, becomes beyond; on the side of two (or twain), becomes between. So in Scotland, the prepositions benorth, besouth, be-east, bewest, the prepositions benorth, besouth, be-east, bewest,—
neat expressions for to the north of, &c.,—are in
frequent use. Of course, it is no objection to the
truth of the definition which I have illustrated
under these four heads, that our language contains
a few words, such as behave, become, which cannot
well be explained in the same way. What grammatical rule is without a few exceptions? and in
this ease they are very few. How easily our language might be enriched with a store of genuine
English words, as convenient and emphatic as
those I have enumerated is evident! The German
language abounds with useful words thus formed. those I have enumerated is evident: The German language abounds with useful words thus formed, which, if literally translated, would give us the active verbs beyea, benea, bewonder, besay, bewrite, beride, belaugh, besneer, besmile, befrown, belook, &c., the convenience of which is obvious. It is to be regretted, that not only does the process of forming words after the foregoing analogies seem with us to have almost ceased, and that a number of those which are found in our old authors have nearly fallen into disuse, but that the meaning of the prefix itself has been so forgotten, that some of the words thus formed, which we still employ, are often improperly construed, and the occasional are often improperly construed, and the occasional attempts to coin new ones is generally as erroneous as that of Mr. Alger, which has immediately suggested these remarks. I have been induced to dwell at greater length on this subject, because even Coleridge (whose familiarity with German ought to have preserved him from the error) employs the prefix be- to form new English words in a way wholly contrary to the general analogy of the language. If I remember well, he imagines its use to be, to give intensity to the verb it is prefixed to,—a theory which the foregoing ex-amples sufficiently disprove.

To Correspondents.—A. H.—J. H. L.—R. O.—R. B. S. T.—W.—Corcogiensis.—R. P.—P. S.—Potts.—T. B. R.—I. S.—J. R.—H. H.—G. W. Y. (in type).—J. D. M.—A Besighted Pilgrim.—W. T.—received.

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1,109 Proposals to Assure

1,109 Proposals to Assure

1,113 Policies, assuring

240,436 0 0

43 Proposals were declined, for 1,775 0 0

41 Ditto were under consideration, for 6,388 0 0

43 Proposals were declined, for 5,780 0 0

41 Ditto were under consideration, for 6,388 1 0

70 Pe Annual Income is newer granited, for 3,899 1 4

7 The Claims arising from deaths during the year, including bonuses, amount to

70 Per annual Income is now to the consideration of the presentatives of members deceased since the commencement, is

71 Pe Annual tender and the first deducting the sain bonus paid on the last division of profits, amounts bonus paid on the last division of profits, declared at the last division, has been completed during the year, as follows:

72 Cash Bonus (27) per cent. on premiums paid)

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Progress of the Company from its commencement :-

	Policies Issued. Amou	
From Jan. 1847, to end of 1851	3,150 3,257 2,605	£. 553,393 679,351 579,011
10 Years.	9,012	1,811,665

6,968 Policies are now in force, assuring £1,419,868. JAMES INGLIS, Secretary.

A RGUS LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 39, THROGMORTON-STREET, BANK.

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Fig. 1. Lewis Poccock, Esq.

Findury-square.

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Advap—George Clark, Esq.

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Premiums to Assure £100.			Whole Term.				
Age.	One Year.	Seven Years.	With Profits.	Without Profits.			
90 30 40 50	£0 17 8 1 1 3 1 5 0 1 14 1 3 9 4	£0 19 9 1 2 7 1 6 9 1 19 10	£1 15 10 \$ 5 5 8 0 7 4 6 8	£1 11 10 9 0 7 2 14 10 4 0 11			

Assurers on the Bonus system are entitled, at the end of five years, to participate in nine-tenths, or 90 per cent. of the profits. The profit sassigned to each policy can be added to the sum assured, applied in reduction of the annual premium, or be remaining the profit of the annual premium, or be remaining paid was declared; this will allow a reversionary increase, varying, according to age, from 66 to 85 per cent. on the premiums, or from 5 to 15 per cent. on the sum assured.

One-half of the "Whole Term" Premium may remain or relit one of the the profit of the premium for the sa debt upon the Pocker of of the premium may remain for life as a debt upon the Pocker of of the premium may remain for life as a debt upon the Pocker of the premium may remain for life as a debt upon the Pocker of the premium may remain for life as a debt upon the Pocker of the premium may remain for life as a continue without notice.

Claims paid in one month after proofs have been approved. Loans upon approved security.

No charge for Policy Stamps.

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A Report by the Directors on the business of the year ending the Company's Office in Edinburgh on the 2nd of March, 1807. ANDREW COVENTRY, Esq in the Chair.

A Report by the Directors on the business of the year ending the Intelligence of the Parliam of the State of The Annual Income from Life Preniums was in 18,546, 132. 14d. The Annual Income from Life Preniums was cheeded to all PARTICIPATING.

The ANNUAL PROSPECTIVE of INTERNED ATE BONUS OLLOUES, Company of the State of the Participating of the Parliam of 12,447, 122. 46d.

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Date of Insurance.	Amount of Additions to Feb. 1, 1851.		Addition made as on Feb. 1, 1856.		Sum Payable after Death,			
1820	£ 523 1	6 0	£114	5	0	£ 1638	1	0
1825	382 1	4 0	103	14	0	1486	8	0
1830	241 1	2 0	93	2	0	1334	14	0
1885	185	3 0	88	17	0	1974	0	0
1840	128 1	5 0	84	13	0	1913	8	0
1845	65 1	5 0	79	18	0	1145	13	0
1850	10	0 0	75	15	0	1085	15	0
1855	- Consideration	_	15	0	0	1015	0	0

And for intermediate years in proportion.

Insurances, without participation will be made in 1861.

Insurances, without participation in Profits, may be effected at reduced rates.

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